この物語を始めるにあたり、
自分の頭の中の「面白かったもの箱」を
ひっくり返してみました。
前回「ロケットマン」のとき、
その箱から出てきたのは「ロケット」。
で、今回は「博物館」だったわけです。
それにくっついているイメージとしては、
「剥製の目が恐い」
「化石かっこいい」
「裏にきっと博士がいる」。
そんな物語にしたいですね。

加藤元浩
KATOU MOTOHIRO

cover design Kraken

C.M.B.
森羅博物館の事件目録

Monthly Shonen Magazine Comics

01 加藤元浩

KCGM 1032
C.M.B.
森羅博物館の事件目録
01
加藤元浩

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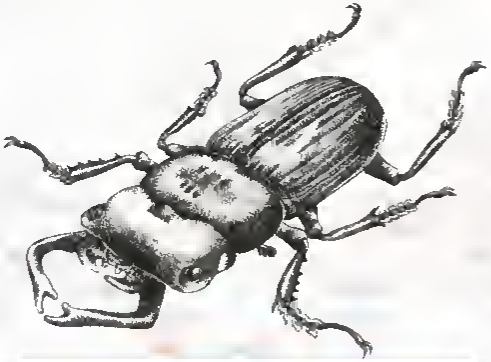
Welcome to “Wunderkammer”



森羅博物館収蔵 Op.01125

サソリクワガタ ♂

platyfigulus scorpio Arrow

産地：スリランカ

昆虫綱甲虫目クワガタムシ科チビクワガタ亜科に属する。非常に希少な種であり、現在確認されている標本は10に満たない

Monthly Shonen Magazine Comics

MOTOHIRO KATOU ★ MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS : C.M.B. : C. M. B. BENEDICAT★CHRISTUS MANSIONEM

加藤元浩作品

C.M.B. 第1巻

Q.E.D. 第1～23巻

以下続刊

ロケットマン 全10巻

CMB 01 Motohiro Kato

kodansha

KCGM 1032

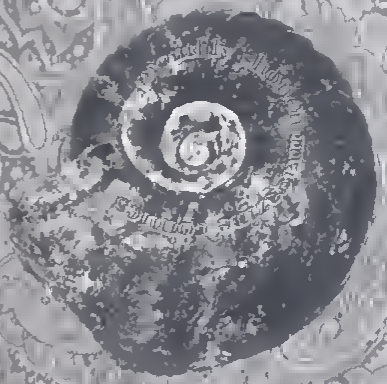
C.M.B.

森羅博物館の事件日録

01

加藤元浩

講談社



この先は入館料が必要となります

01

加藤元浩

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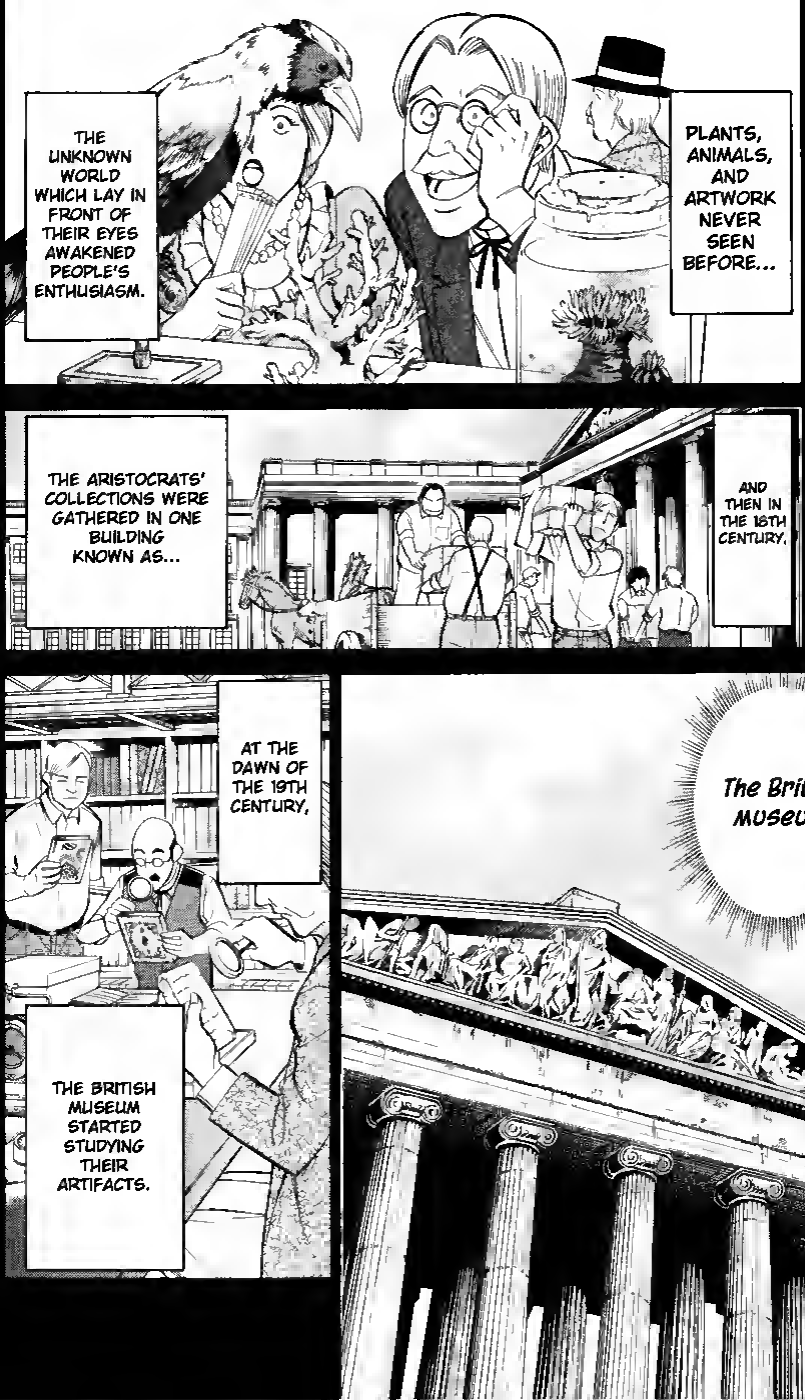
Op.01
擬態
Mimicry

C M B KATOU MOTOHIRO

THE AGE OF EXPLORATION;
AN ERA WHEN RARE AND UNIQUE ITEMS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD WERE GATHERED IN EUROPE.
ARISTOCRATS COLLECTED ANTIQUES AND PUT THEM ON DISPLAY.
Wunder-kammer.
THAT'S WHAT PEOPLE CALLED THE EXHIBITION ROOM.


THE UNKNOWN WORLD WHICH LAY IN FRONT OF THEIR EYES AWAKENED PEOPLE'S ENTHUSIASM.
PLANTS, ANIMALS, AND ARTWORK NEVER SEEN BEFORE...
THE ARISTOCRATS' COLLECTIONS WERE GATHERED IN ONE BUILDING KNOWN AS...
AND THEN IN THE 18TH CENTURY,
AT THE DAWN OF THE 19TH CENTURY,
THE BRITISH MUSEUM STARTED STUDYING THEIR ARTIFACTS.
The British Museum.

THE UNKNOWN MONSTERS THAT NESTED IN THE DARKNESS CALLED "WUNDERKAMMER" WAS ILLUMINATED BY THE LIGHT OF HUMAN INTELLIGENCE,
AND EXPLAINED "THE WORLD"!!
THE TIME'S QUEEN CHARLOTTE OF BRITAIN PICKED THREE WISE MEN.
THEY WERE GIVEN THE DUTY OF PROTECTORS OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

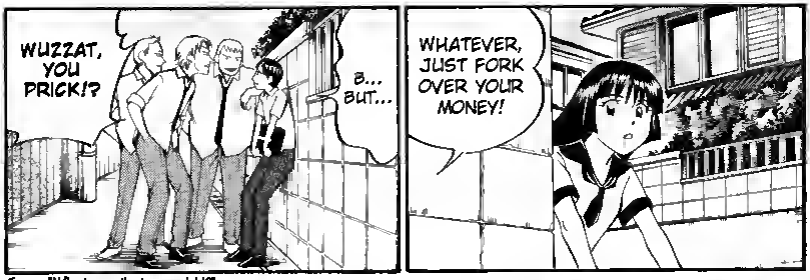
TO THEM SHE CONFERRED THE TITLE OF KNIGHT AND A RING AS A SYMBOL.
G
M
B
IT SEEMS THAT THE RINGS WERE ALWAYS BEQUEATHED FROM THE 'THREE WISE MEN' TO THEIR BEST STUDENTS.

SFX: CLANG CLANG

MORNING, TATSUKI-CHAN.
GOOD MORNING.
TATSUKI-CHAN, MORNING.

IT WAS THE BE-GINNING OF A RE-FRESHING DAY...
AT LEAST AT FIRST GLANCE.

SO POLITE!
AS EXPECTED OF A MEIYUU STUDENT.

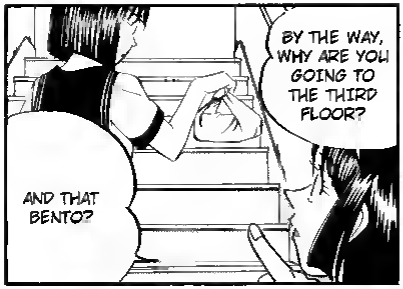


Trans: "What was that, you prick!?"

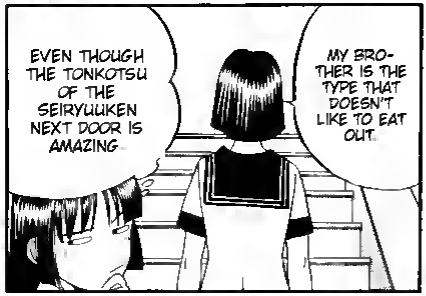
Trans: "What are you looking at ugly!?" - We're not making this up, he's seriously killing language as we know it**

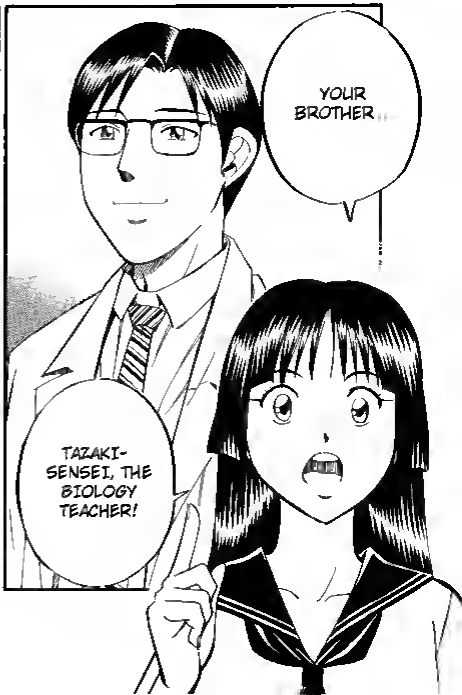
THIS IS MY SCHOOL, MEIYUU PRIVATE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL.
A FAMOUS SCHOOL WHERE THE CHILDREN OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS GATHER.
HOW WAS THE VIENNA PHILHARMONIC?
IT WAS VERY TOUCHING.

GOOD MORNING, NANASE-SAN.
GOOD MORNING, TAZAKI-SAN.
THERE'S A BRUISE ON YOUR ARM.
HOHOHO, I JUST TRIPPED ON THE WAY.
DID YOU SEE THOSE HOODLUMS?
THEIR FACES SWELLED TO TWICE THEIR NORMAL SIZES, RIGHT?
THE CAUSE OF THAT IS STANDING RIGHT HERE.
I DON'T THINK OF THAT AS MISFORTUNE THOUGH.
THEY WERE CRYING OUT THAT ONE OF OUR STUDENTS DID IT.
I THINK IT WAS MORE LIKE THEY WERE BEATEN BY A BEAR
COME ON, QUICK, TAZAKI-SAN!
I'M SERI-OUS!



Note: Seiryuuken is the name of a famous chain of ramen shops.



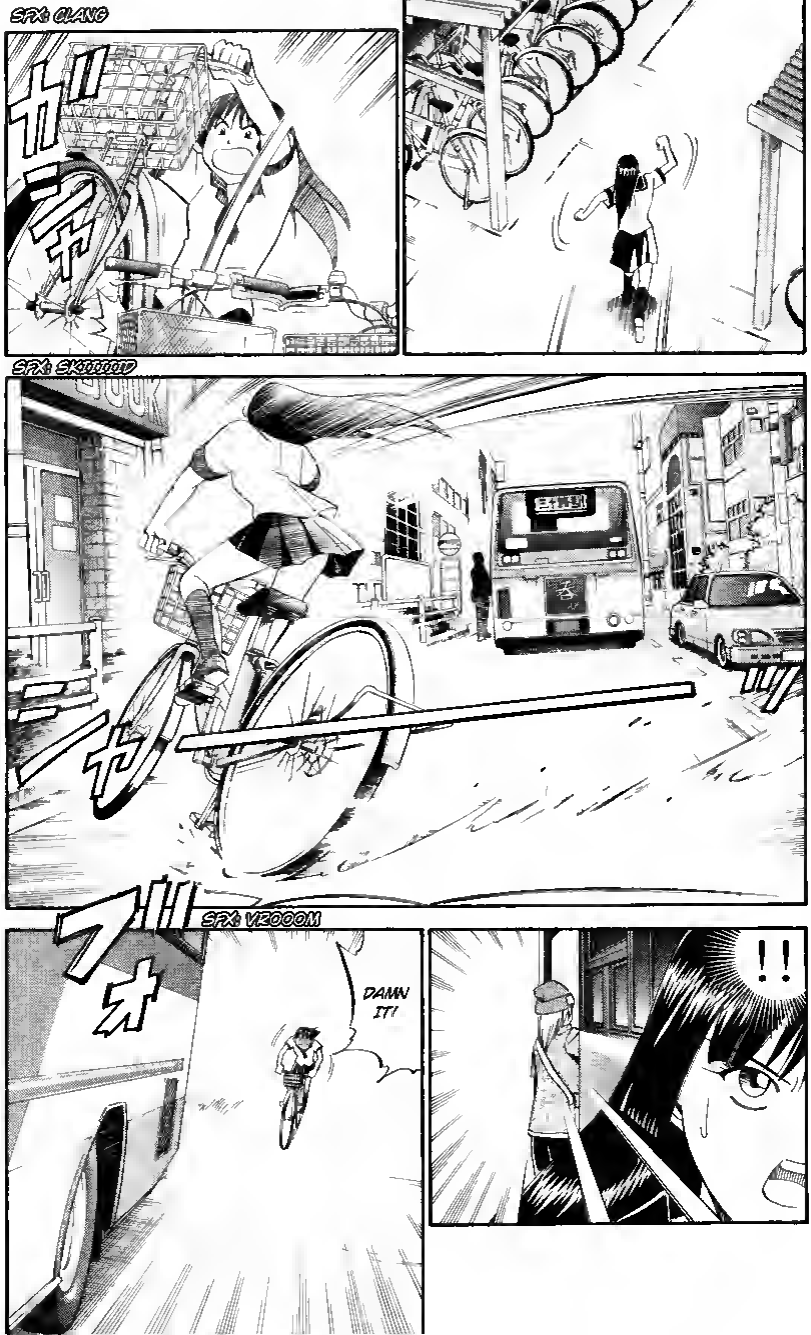


GYAAAAA!!
生物室
THE BIOLOGY ROOM!?
A BURNING SMELL!
WHAT HAPPENED ?
生物室
BEHIND THAT TABLE...
TH... THERE .

TAZAKI-SAN!
TAKE HER TO THE SCHOOL INFIR-MARY!
YOU TWO! GO TO THE STAFF ROOM AND CALL THE POLICE.
BROTHER ...
MY LEGS WON'T MOVE...
AH... BUT...
ピュー
GO ALREADY!!
SFX: WHOOSH

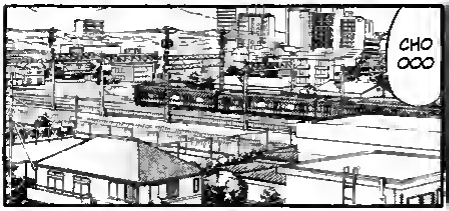
IS THIS REALLY TAZAKI-SENSEI?
BE STEADY NOW!!
.....
?
FLASH

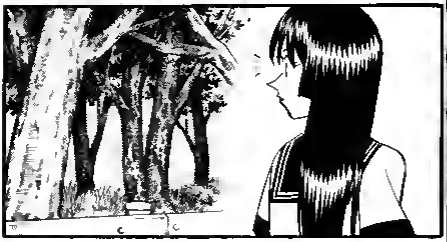
CLINK
SFX: RUSTLE RUSTLE
!!
DON'T THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY!

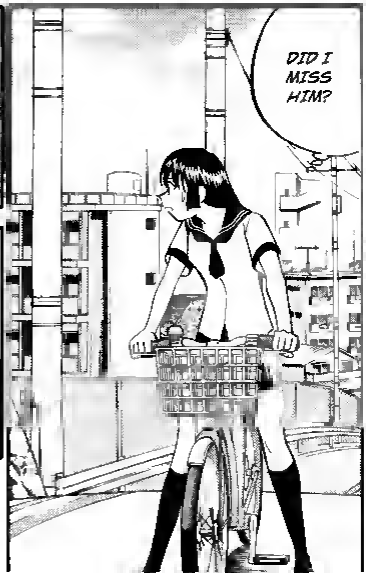

SFX: CLANG
ガシャ
SFX: SKRRRRD
シャー
SFX: VROOOM
ブォ
DAMN IT!
!!

PSSH
611 三十路駅 行
HE GOT OFF!!
三十路

GONE


CHO
OOO




DID I
MISS
HIM?

DID HE GO INTO THE FOREST..?
CREAK
PROBABLY NOT..

CREAK
森羅博物

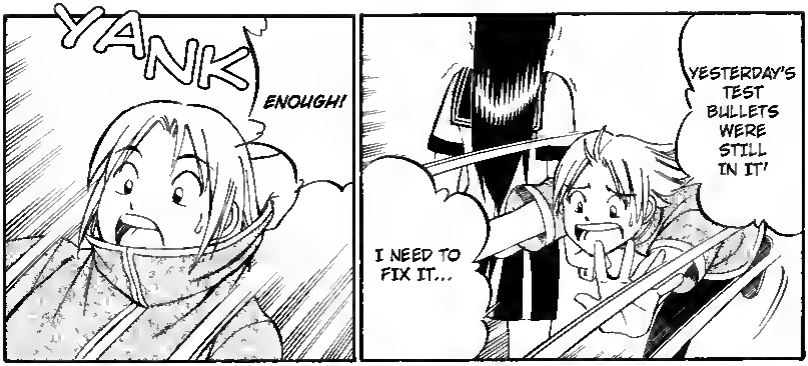
森羅博物館
SHINRA MUSEUM?
森羅博物館
WHY'S THERE A SIGN BY THE WINDOW?
MAYBE HE'S INSIDE.

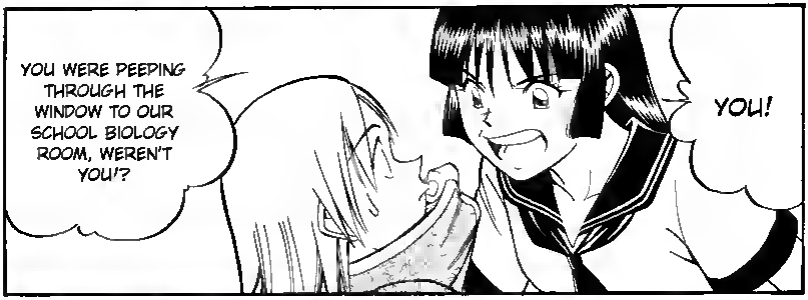
IT REALLY IS A MUSEUM!
HAA!?
"OBTAINED IN SOUTHERN ITALY..."
"MOUSE TRAP WHICH HAS CAUGHT 117 MICE."
"SILVER STATUE FOUND IN TURKEY..."
"4TH CENTURY..."
WOOOW.

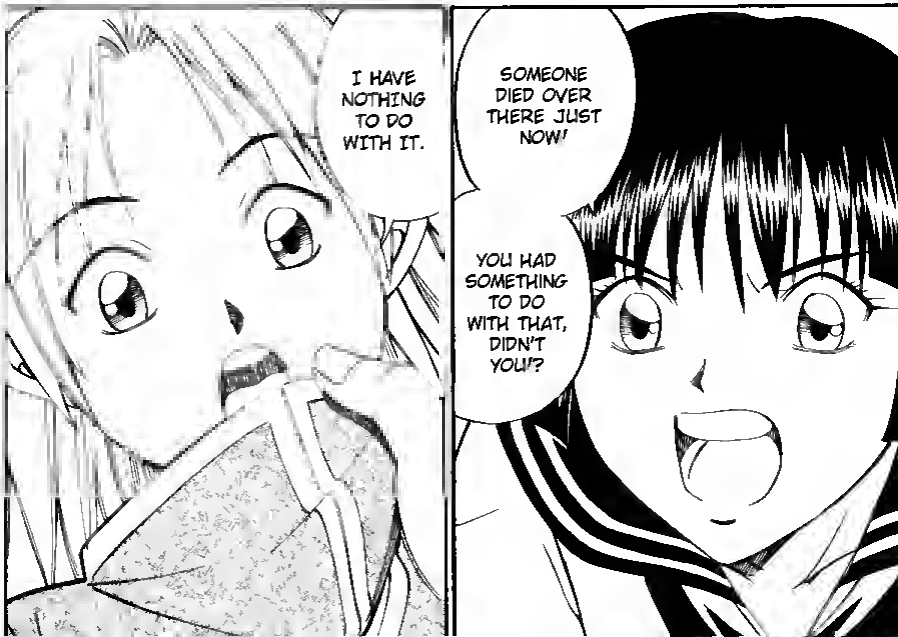
WELCOME,
TO SHINRA MUSEUM.
I'M THE HEAD OF THIS MUSEUM, SHINRA SAKAKI.

LET ME GUIDE YOU!
I'M SO HAPPY!
AH!
NGG .. WHERE SHOULD WE START FROM?
IT'S BEEN A VERY LONG TIME SINCE THE LAST VISITOR CAME!
GYAAAAAA!!
THIS IS A DRY POISONOUS FROG WHICH WAS USED BY AMERICAN SHAMANS.
WELL... THIS ONE IS PRETTY.
GIRLS SHOULD LIKE THIS.
NO GOOD?
HUH?

THIS WEAPON IS CALLED THE FLINTLOCK SWORD, THE COMBINATION OF A SWORD AND A GUN.
THIS WAS MADE IN ITALY DURING THE 18TH CENTURY, AND THIS IS WHERE YOU PULL THE...
SFX: THUNG
SFX: SLAM
SFX: BANG
AA AA AA AH !!


YANK
ENOUGH!
I NEED TO FIX IT...
YESTERDAY'S TEST BULLETS WERE STILL IN IT!


YOU WERE PEEPING THROUGH THE WINDOW TO OUR SCHOOL BIOLOGY ROOM, WEREN'T YOU!?
YOU!


I HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.
SOMEONE DIED OVER THERE JUST NOW!
YOU HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT, DIDN'T YOU!?

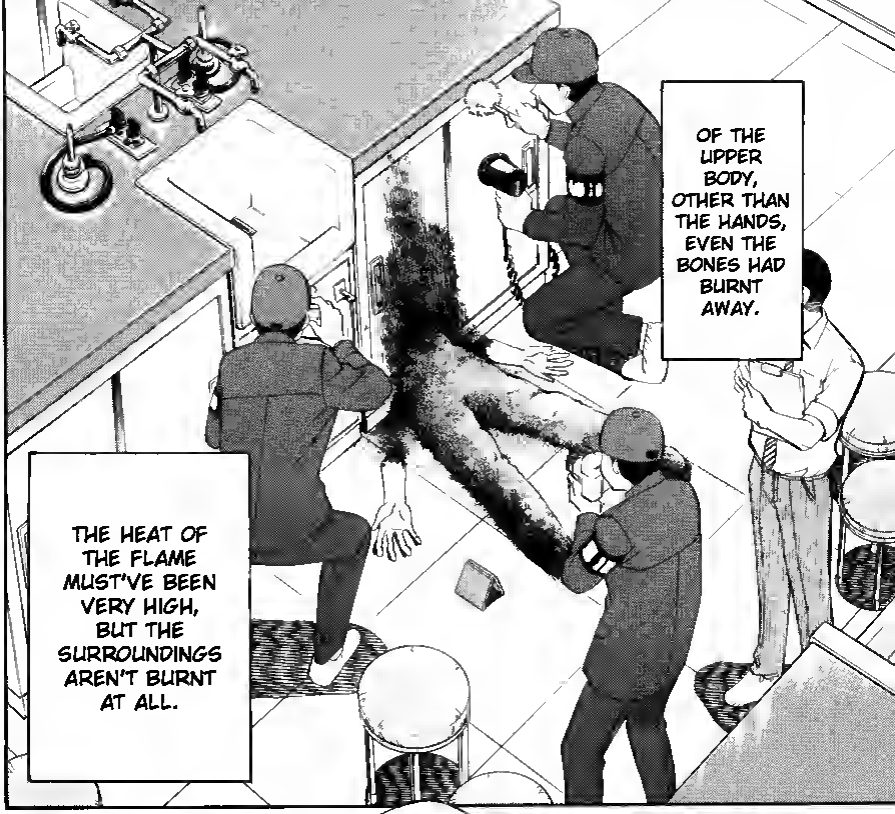
I SWEAR IN THE NAME OF THESE RINGS!
I'M NOT LYING!
IF YOU LIE, I'LL SCRATCH YOU!
HISS
THESE ARE IMPORTANT...
THE FATHERS GAVE THEM TO ME.
FATHERS !?

A MIS-UNDER-STANDING?
...THOUGH, IF YOU SEE HIS FACE...
HE LOOKS LIKE A HONEST PERSON.
ENOUGH, I'LL GO HOME.
EH? ALREADY?
WHERE'S THE EXIT?
YOU JUST ENTERED FROM IT, DIDN'T YOU?
THIS IS THE EXIT?
SO I HAVE TO CLIMB DOWN THIS TREE?
SERIOUSLY?

NEW BUILDINGS AND APARTMENTS ARE RAPIDLY BEING BUILT AROUND HERE,
AND BECAUSE OF THAT, THE ENTRANCEWAY GOT BLOCKED OFF.
BUT THANKS TO THAT, I COULD BUY THIS PLACE FOR NEXT TO NOTHING.
AND THE SCENERY HERE IS AMAZING.
PLEASE COME AGAIN.
THIS KID REALLY DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT.
HE'S JUST A REGULAR AIRHEAD.

NANASE-SAN!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN..?
AH... OUT A BIT...
THE POLICE ARE CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING IT.
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY, THE BIOLOGY ROOM?
AND IT SEEMS THAT TAZAKI-SENSEI'S GONE MISSING.
TAZAKI-SENSEI?
AND TAZAKI-SAN?
IN THE SCHOOL INFIR-MARY.

THAT CORPSE ...
IS IT REALLY TAZAKI-SENSEI!?
生物室
TAZAKI MAMORU, 25 YEARS OLD.
THE BIOLOGY TEACHER TEACHING BIOLOGY IN THIS BIOLOGY ROOM
IT SEEMS THAT HE ISN'T AT HOME.
SO THAT CORPSE IS REALLY TAZAKI-SENSEI...
WE HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE AUTOPSY FIRST.
BUT THIS IS AN ODD CASE, ISN'T IT?


OF THE UPPER BODY, OTHER THAN THE HANDS, EVEN THE BONES HAD BURNT AWAY.
THE HEAT OF THE FLAME MUST'VE BEEN VERY HIGH, BUT THE SURROUNDINGS AREN'T BURNT AT ALL.

IT'S AS IF THIS WAS "spontaneous combustion"

"Spontaneous combustion"? WHAT'S THAT, OFFICER?
WELL, IT'S SOMETHING THAT SEEMS AS IF IT WAS OCCULT.
IT'S AN INEXPLICABLE PHENOMENON WHICH HAS BEEN REPORTED SEVERAL TIMES IN THE WEST,
WHERE A PERSON'S BODY SUDDENLY BURSTS INTO FLAMES.
EVEN THE BONES BURN UP, BUT THERE ARE NEARLY NO BURN MARKS ON THE REMAINING LIMBS OR THE SURROUNDINGS.
THE SITUATION INDEED LOOKS THE SAME!
SO THEN THIS WAS "Spontaneous combustion"?
NO, I JUST SAID THAT THIS LOOKS LIKE THAT...

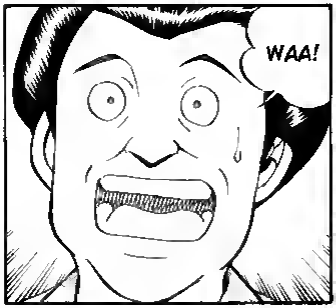
A PLACE TO KEEP LAB MATERIALS
AND IT WAS ALSO TAZAKI-SENSEI'S WORK AREA.
OTHER THAN THAT, WHAT IS THIS ROOM NEXT TO THE BIOLOGY ROOM?
IT'S A PREPARA-TION ROOM.
ARE THESE INSECT SPECIMENS LAB MATERIALS TOO?
THOSE ARE MOSTLY TAZAKI-SENSEI'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.
HIS HOBBY WAS TO COLLECT INSECT SPECIMENS AND HE WOULD KEEP THEM HERE.
SOMETIMES, HE WOULD SHOW THEM TO THE STUDENTS,

HE WOULD OFTEN INVITE HIS FRIENDS WITH THE SAME HOBBIES HERE...
WE'VE ASKED HIM TO TAKE THEM HOME, BUT...
HONESTLY, WE WERE A LITTLE BOTHERED BY THAT.
SEVERAL OF HIS FRIENDS WOULD COME AND GO.
HM..
WELL, UNTIL THE INVESTIGATION IS OVER, WE CAN'T SAY ANYTHING.

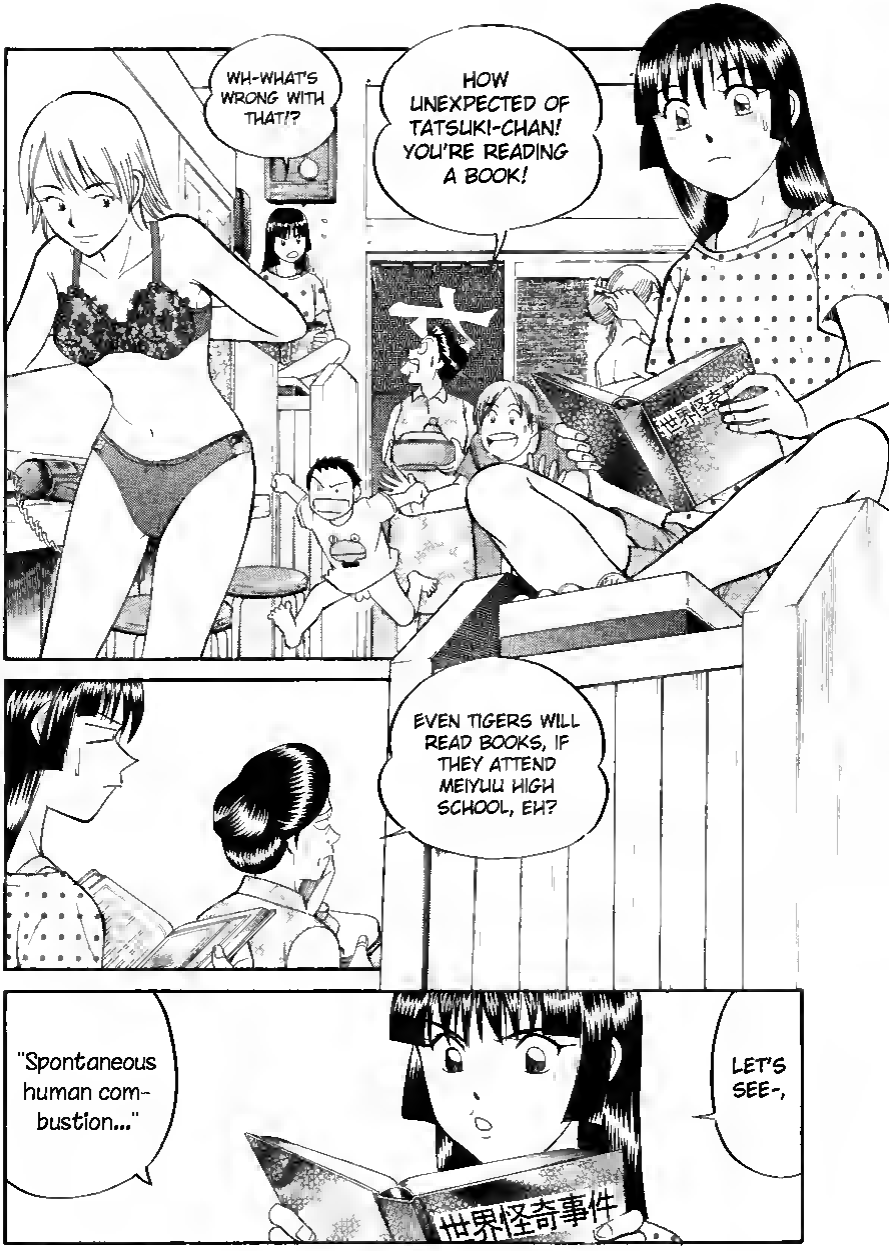
ARE YOU AL-RIGHT?
I'M AFRAID...
EVEN YESTERDAY MORNING,
WE TALKED LIKE WE USUALLY DID.
IF HE WERE TO SUDDENLY DISAPPEAR...

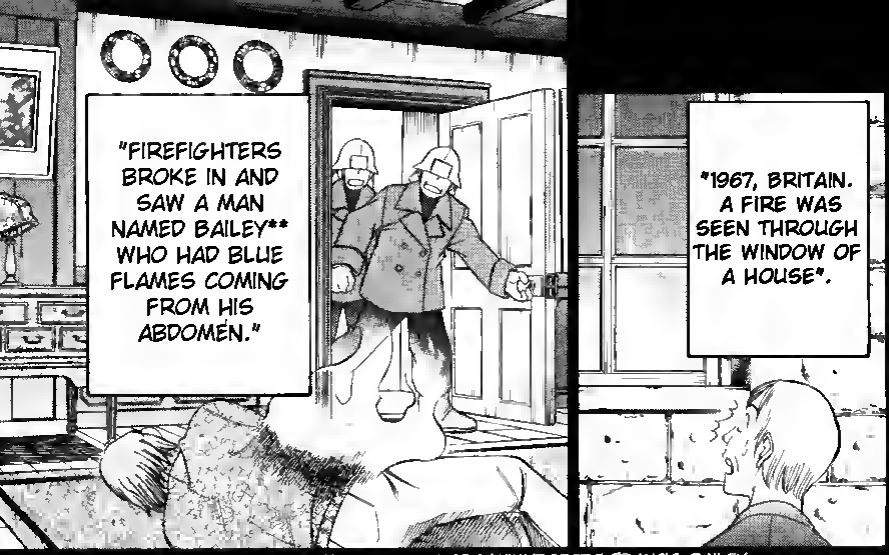
WHAT SHOULD I DO..?
WHAT SHOULD I DO, NANASE-SAN?

ガラ
GOOD EVE-NING!
WEL-COME!

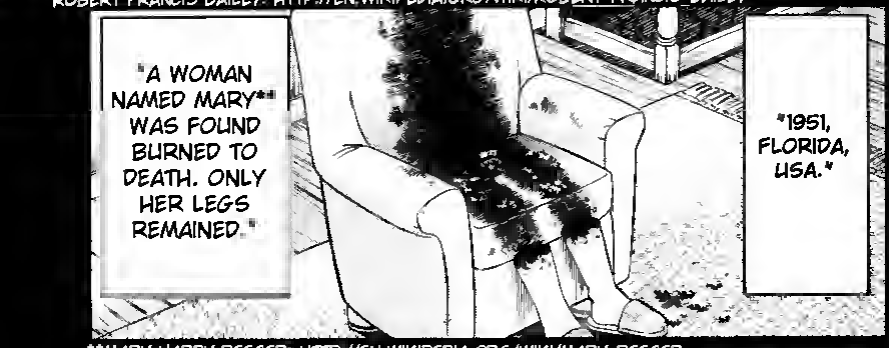

WAA!

ななせ湯
ななせ湯


WH-WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT!?
HOW UNEXPECTED OF TATSUKI-CHAN! YOU'RE READING A BOOK!
世界怪奇
EVEN TIGERS WILL READ BOOKS, IF THEY ATTEND MEIYUU HIGH SCHOOL, EH?
"Spontaneous human combustion..."
LET'S SEE-,
世界怪奇事件


"1967, BRITAIN. A FIRE WAS SEEN THROUGH THE WINDOW OF A HOUSE".
"FIREFIGHTERS BROKE IN AND SAW A MAN NAMED BAILEY** WHO HAD BLUE FLAMES COMING FROM HIS ABDOMEN."

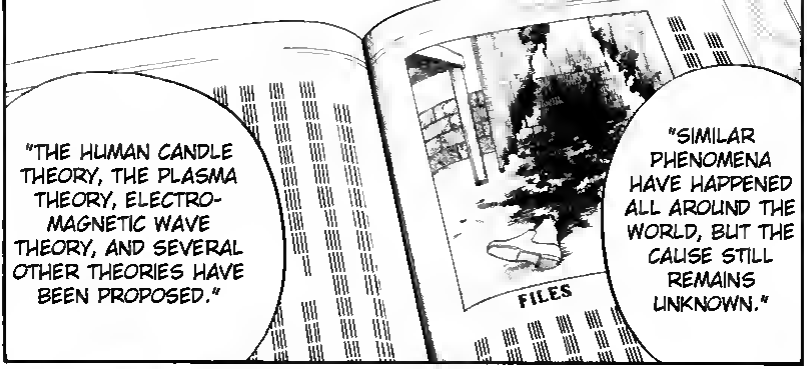
**ROBERT FRANCIS BAILEY: HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/ROBERT_FRANCIS_BAILEY

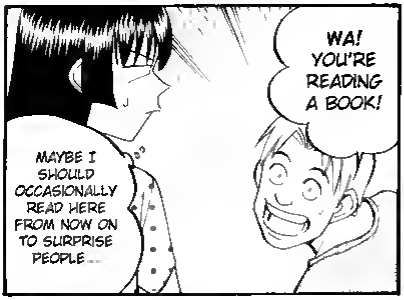


**MARY HARDY REESER: HTTP //EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/MARY_REESER

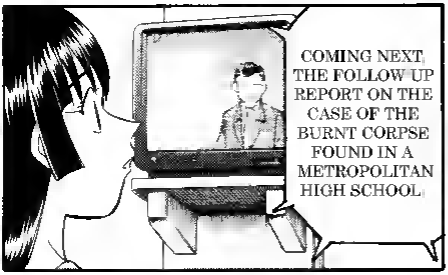
"1998, AUSTRALIA. AN ELDERLY LADY NAMED AGNES** SUDDENLY BURST INTO FLAMES WHILE IN A CAR..."
"THERE WERE SEVERAL WITNESSES, BUT THE CAUSE OF THE FIRE REMAINED UNKNOWN."

**AGNES PHILIPS: HTTP://WWW.MYSTICALBLAZE.COM/SPONTANEOUSSYDNEY.HTM


"THE HUMAN CANDLE THEORY, THE PLASMA THEORY, ELECTRO-MAGNETIC WAVE THEORY, AND SEVERAL OTHER THEORIES HAVE BEEN PROPOSED."
FILES
"SIMILAR PHENOMENA HAVE HAPPENED ALL AROUND THE WORLD, BUT THE CAUSE STILL REMAINS UNKNOWN."


WA! YOU'RE READING A BOOK!
MAYBE I SHOULD OCCASIONALLY READ HERE FROM NOW ON TO SURPRISE PEOPLE...

GOOD EVENING.
HMM.


COMING NEXT, THE FOLLOW UP REPORT ON THE CASE OF THE BURNT CORPSE FOUND IN A METROPOLITAN HIGH SCHOOL.

TATSUKI-CHAN, MAY I PUT UP OUR DRAMA GROUP POSTER?
ON THAT WALL, OK?

THE POLICE HAVE ANNOUNCED
YES.
ISN'T THAT TATSUKI-CHAN'S SCHOOL?

GREAT!! IT WASN'T TAZAKI-SENSEI!!
THE BODY ISN'T TAZAKI MAMOURI-SHI, THE MISSING TEACHER.
THAT THE AUTOPSY HAS SHOWN THAT, BASED ON FINGER-PRINTS OF THE UNBURNED HAND,
REGARDING THE MISSING TAZAKI-SHI—
THE POLICE ARE NOW INVESTIGATING THE CORPSE'S IDENTITY.
AND WILL USE ALL THEIR POWER TO DISCOVER HIS WHERE-ABOUTS.
THE POLICE CONSIDER HIM A PRIME SUSPECT,

YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR BROTHER IS, RIGHT?
HE MIGHT BE THE MURDERER, ISN'T THAT TRUE?
KTV
THAT BURNT CORPSE'S IDENTITY IS STILL UNKNOWN.
BUT WE KNOW IT'S NOT TAZAKI-SAN, THE PERSON WHO WAS REPORTED LOST.
IT IS SAID THAT YOUR BROTHER WAS TRYING TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUSTION
ISN'T IT TRUE THAT HE KILLED A PERSON TO ACHIEVE THIS..?
SFX: RING
A PERSON DIED!! DON'T YOU FEEL ANY RESPON-SIBILITY!?
HEY! SAY SOMETHING!

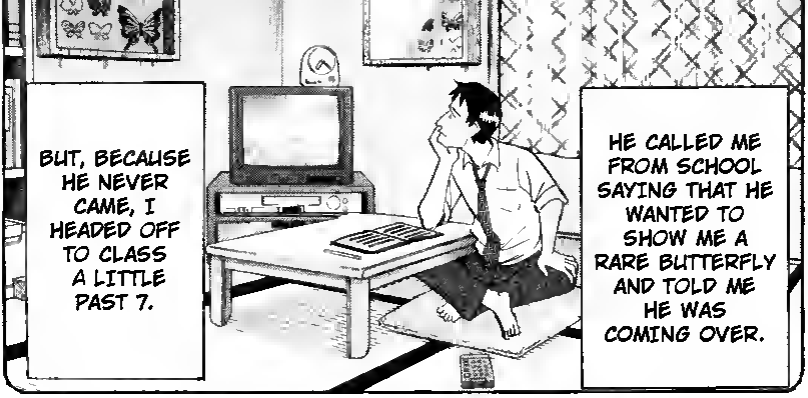
OH MY, I BEG YOUR PARDON.
SFX: THUD
JUMP ON!
NANASE -SAN!
EVEN SO, THE POLICE AND THE REPORTERS...
MY BROTHER DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!

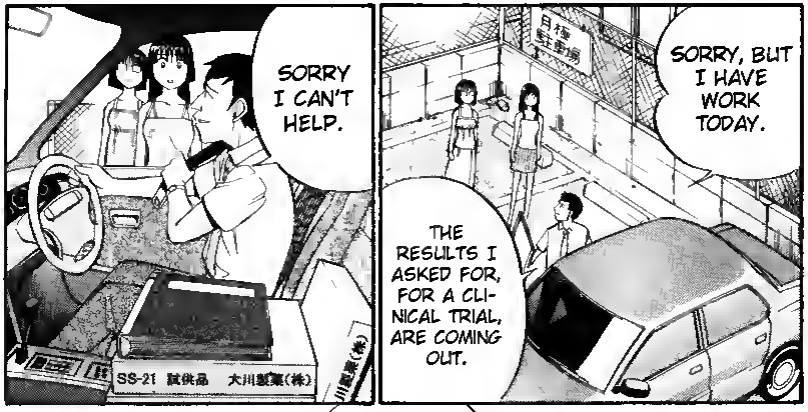
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA OF WHERE YOUR BROTHER IS?
NO.
THE POLICE CAME TO MY HOUSE AND INVESTI-GATED A BUNCH OF THINGS, BUT...
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THE DAY BEFORE THE INCIDENT,
MY BROTHER HAD AN APPOINT-MENT WITH HIS FRIENDS.
FRIENDS ?
YES, THREE OF THEM...
IT WAS WRITTEN IN MY BROTHER'S SCHEDULE.

EH?
ALL RIGHT! LET'S INVESTIGATE THIS,
YOU AND ME!!
WE HAVE TO DO IT ON OUR OWN!
THE POLICE AND REPORTERS SUSPECT TAZAKI-SENSEI!!
BUT...
TOMORROW'S A SUNDAY!
WE'LL START BY ASKING THOSE THREE FRIENDS OF HIS WHAT HAPPENED!
IF WE DO NOTHING, YOU'LL JUST MOPE AROUND ALL DAY!

WELL...
I'VE TOLD THE POLICE, BUT...
I DIDN'T MEET WITH TAZAKI THE DAY BEFORE THE INCIDENT.
RESCUE WORKER, KAMIHIRA KOUSUKE.
THAT DAY, HE HAD TOLD ME THAT HE WANTED TO SHOW ME A RARE BUTTERFLY AND TO MEET HIM AT 8 P.M. AT A CAFE.
BUT HE NEVER SHOWED UP.

YOU CAN ASK THE PEOPLE I WAS WITH ABOUT IT TOO.
AFTER THAT, I WENT HOME AND SLEPT UNTIL MORNING
SO I GAVE UP ON IT AND WENT DRINKING WITH MY FRIENDS.
BECAUSE I HAVE ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASS FROM 7.30 ONWARDS, FOLLOWED BY A CERAMICS MAKING COURSE AT 9, IN THE END, WE NEVER MET UP.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE TAZAKI IS EITHER.
YOU HAVE SO MANY HOBBIES.
HE WAS SUPPOSED TO COME TO MY HOUSE AT 6 O'CLOCK THAT DAY, BUT...
SALESMAN, IMANISHI NAOYA.
YES, COLLECTING INSECT SPECIMENS IS ONE OF THEM.


BUT, BECAUSE HE NEVER CAME, I HEADED OFF TO CLASS A LITTLE PAST 7.
HE CALLED ME FROM SCHOOL SAYING THAT HE WANTED TO SHOW ME A RARE BUTTERFLY AND TOLD ME HE WAS COMING OVER.


SORRY I CAN'T HELP.
SS-21 試供品 大川製薬(株)
SORRY, BUT I HAVE WORK TODAY.
THE RESULTS I ASKED FOR, FOR A CLINICAL TRIAL, ARE COMING OUT.

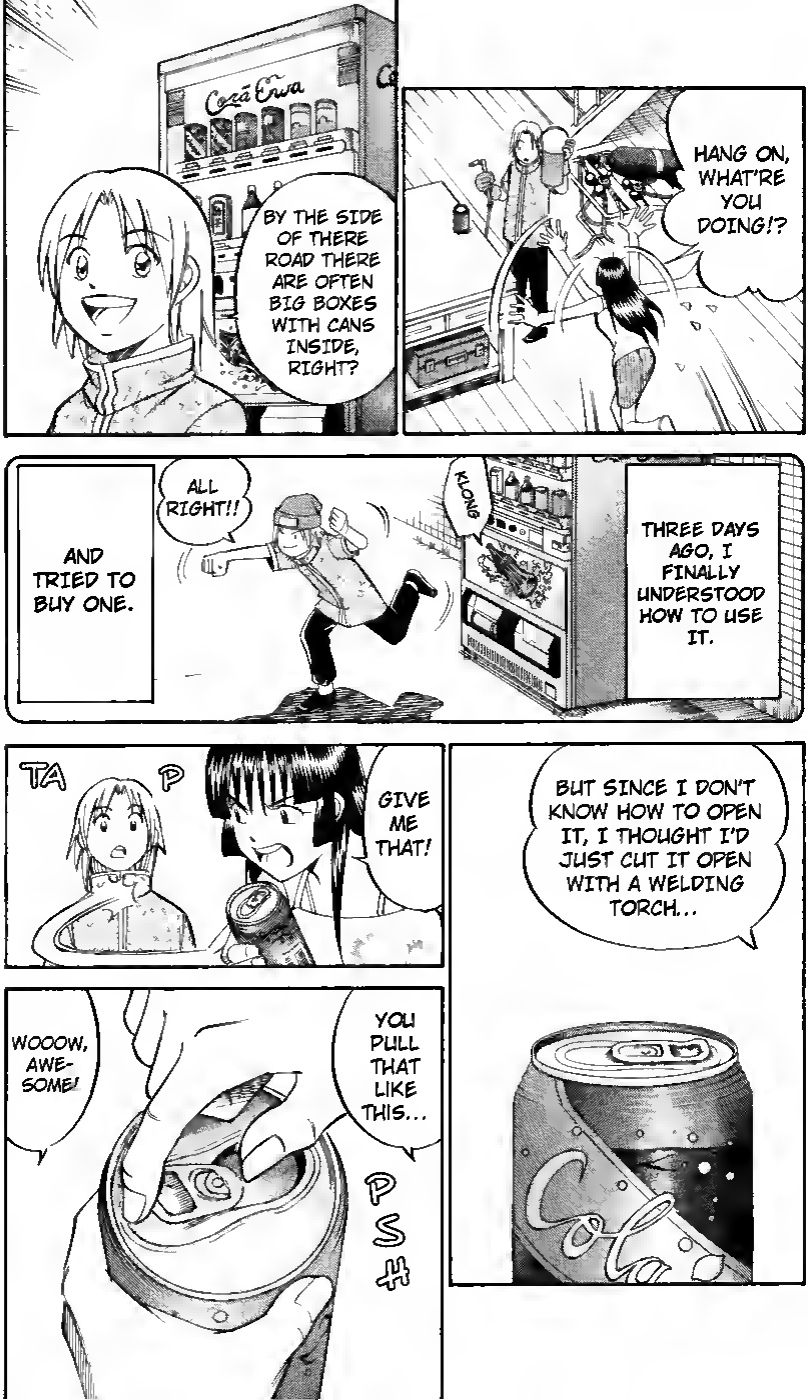
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING EITHER.
HOSPITAL DIRECTOR, NAGAYAMA MASANOBU.
I'M SORRY, IT SEEMS LIKE I CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO HELP YOU OUT.

I WENT HOME WITH THE LAST BUS AS USUAL, BUT HE NEVER SHOWED UP.
HE SAID THERE IS A RARE BUTTERFLY HE WANTED TO SHOW ME.
THERE WAS AN OPERATION THAT DAY, SO WE AGREED TO MEET HERE LATE AT NIGHT...
WHERE IN HEAVENS COULD HE BE?
HE'S MAKING EVERYONE WORRY...
NO CLUES, HUH..?

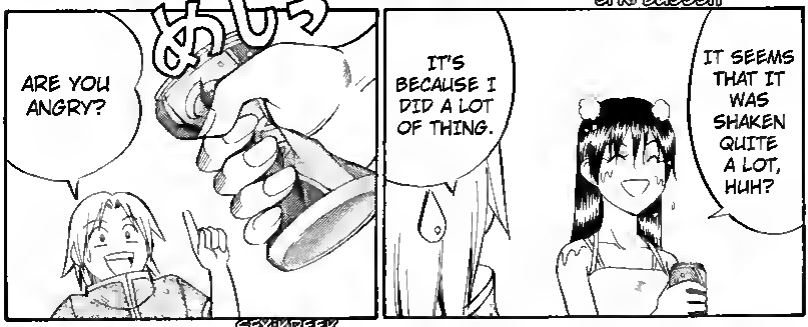
SORRY, HAVING YOU DO THIS ON A DAY OFF...
WHAT ARE SAYING!? IT WAS ME WHO SUG-GESTED IT
BUT I WAS OVERLY OPTI-MISTIC. FOR US TO INVESTIGATE SOMETHING THAT EVEN TRAINED POLICE CAN'T FIGURE OUT.
.....
I DIDN'T KNOW.
THAT THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE WITH THE SAME HOBBY AS MY BROTHER.
WHENEVER I SEE THE ROOM COVERED WITH INSECT SPECIMENS, I'D ALWAYS THINK THERE IS NO ONE AS WEIRD AS HIM...
BUT UN-EXPECTED-LY...
THE SAME HOBBY!?

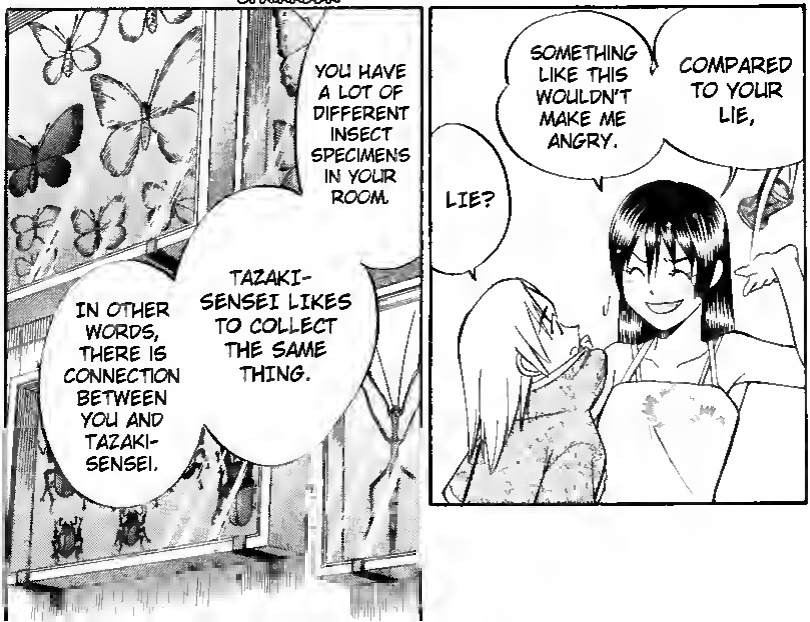
ROOM COVERED WITH SPECIMENS...
WEIRD PEOPLE!?
WHAT'S WRONG, NANASE-SAN?
SORRY!
I REMEMBERED SOMETHING I NEED TO DO!
I'LL CALL YOU LATER!
NO WAY, COULD HE POSSIBLY ..!?

AH!
YOU'VE COME AGAIN!
BOP
I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND AFTER I'M DONE WITH THIS.
SSSH
PLEASE WAIT A MINUTE.

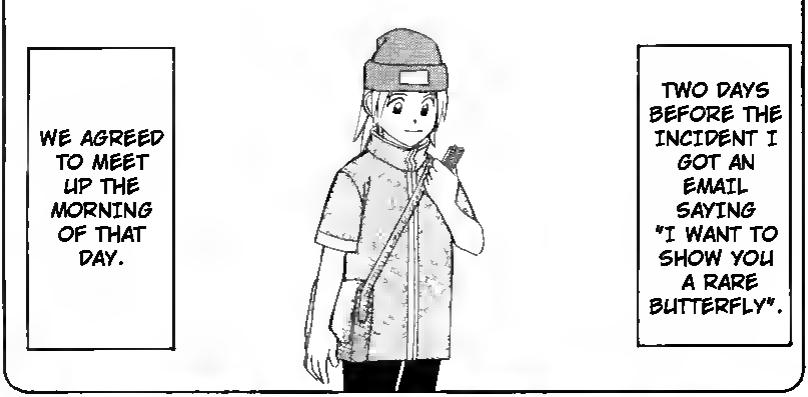

BY THE SIDE OF THERE ROAD THERE ARE OFTEN BIG BOXES WITH CANS INSIDE, RIGHT?
HANG ON, WHAT'RE YOU DOING!?
AND TRIED TO BUY ONE.
ALL RIGHT!!
KLONG
THREE DAYS AGO, I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD HOW TO USE IT.
TA P
GIVE ME THAT!
BUT SINCE I DON'T KNOW HOW TO OPEN IT, I THOUGHT I'D JUST CUT IT OPEN WITH A WELDING TORCH...
WOOOW, AWE-SOME!
YOU PULL THAT LIKE THIS...
P S H

フハハ
SFX: BUSSSH


めしっ
ARE YOU ANGRY?
IT'S BECAUSE I DID A LOT OF THING.
IT SEEMS THAT IT WAS SHAKEN QUITE A LOT, HUH?
SFX: KREEK

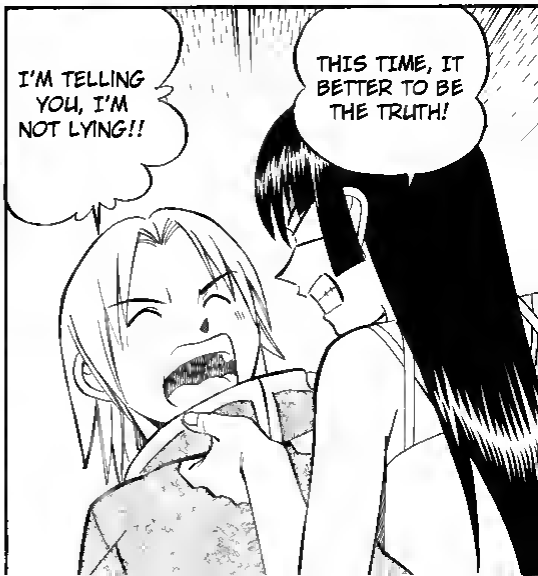

YOU HAVE A LOT OF DIFFERENT INSECT SPECIMENS IN YOUR ROOM.
TAZAKI-SENSEI LIKES TO COLLECT THE SAME THING.
IN OTHER WORDS, THERE IS CONNECTION BETWEEN YOU AND TAZAKI-SENSEI.
LIE?
SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULDN'T MAKE ME ANGRY.
COMPARED TO YOUR LIE,

YOU'RE AN ACQUAINTANCE OF TAZAKI-SENSEI'S, AREN'T YOU!?
YES.
YOU ASKED IF I HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE INCIDENT IN BIOLOGY ROOM!
THE OTHER DAY YOU SAID YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH TAZAKI-SENSEI!!
I NEVER SAID THAT!!
THAT'S WHY I SAID "NOTHING"...

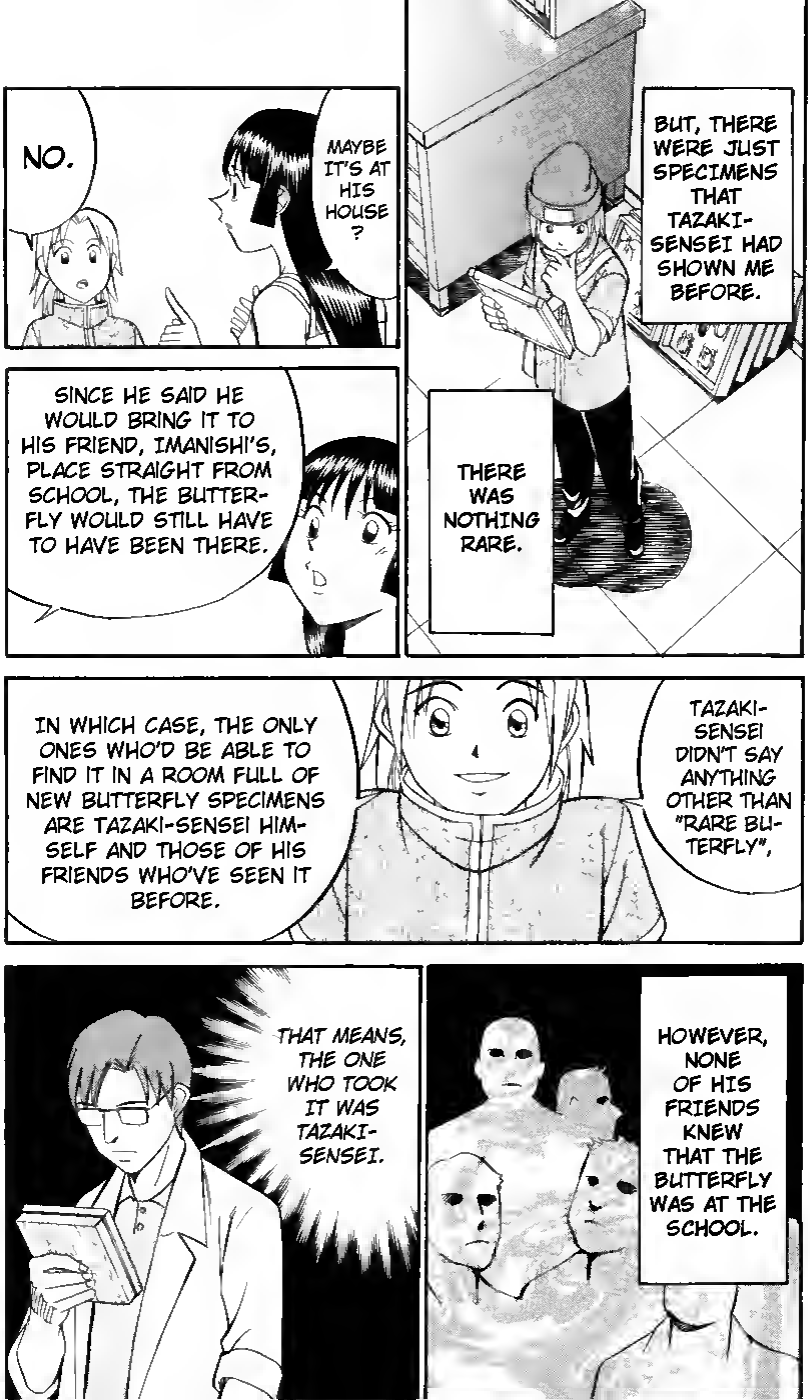

WE AGREED TO MEET UP THE MORNING OF THAT DAY.
TWO DAYS BEFORE THE INCIDENT I GOT AN EMAIL SAYING "I WANT TO SHOW YOU A RARE BUTTERFLY".

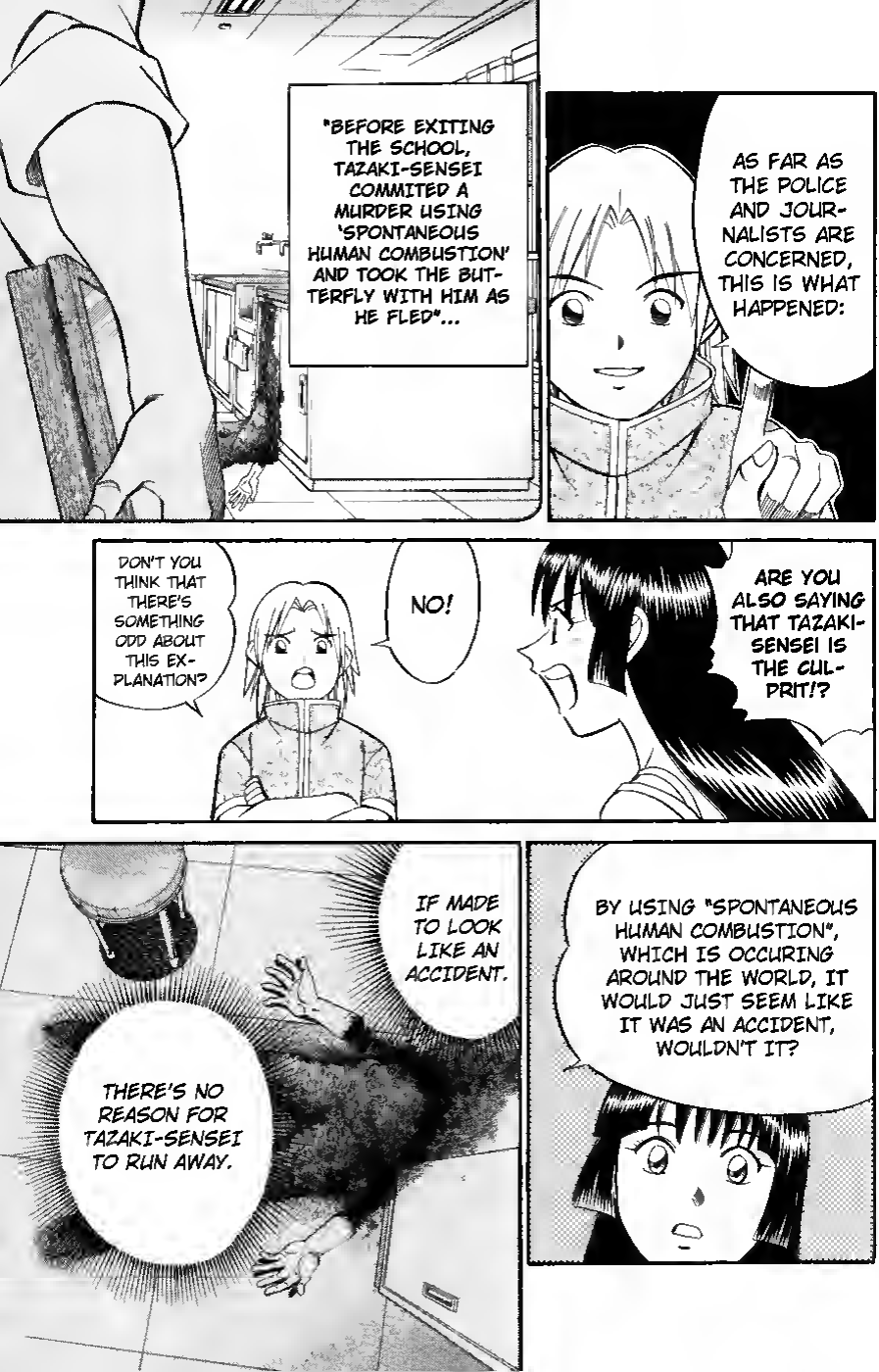
BUT THOUGH I WAITED, THE SIGN NEVER CAME, SO I WENT
HE SAID TO ENTER WHEN I SAW A SIGN FROM THE CLASS-ROOM WINDOW.

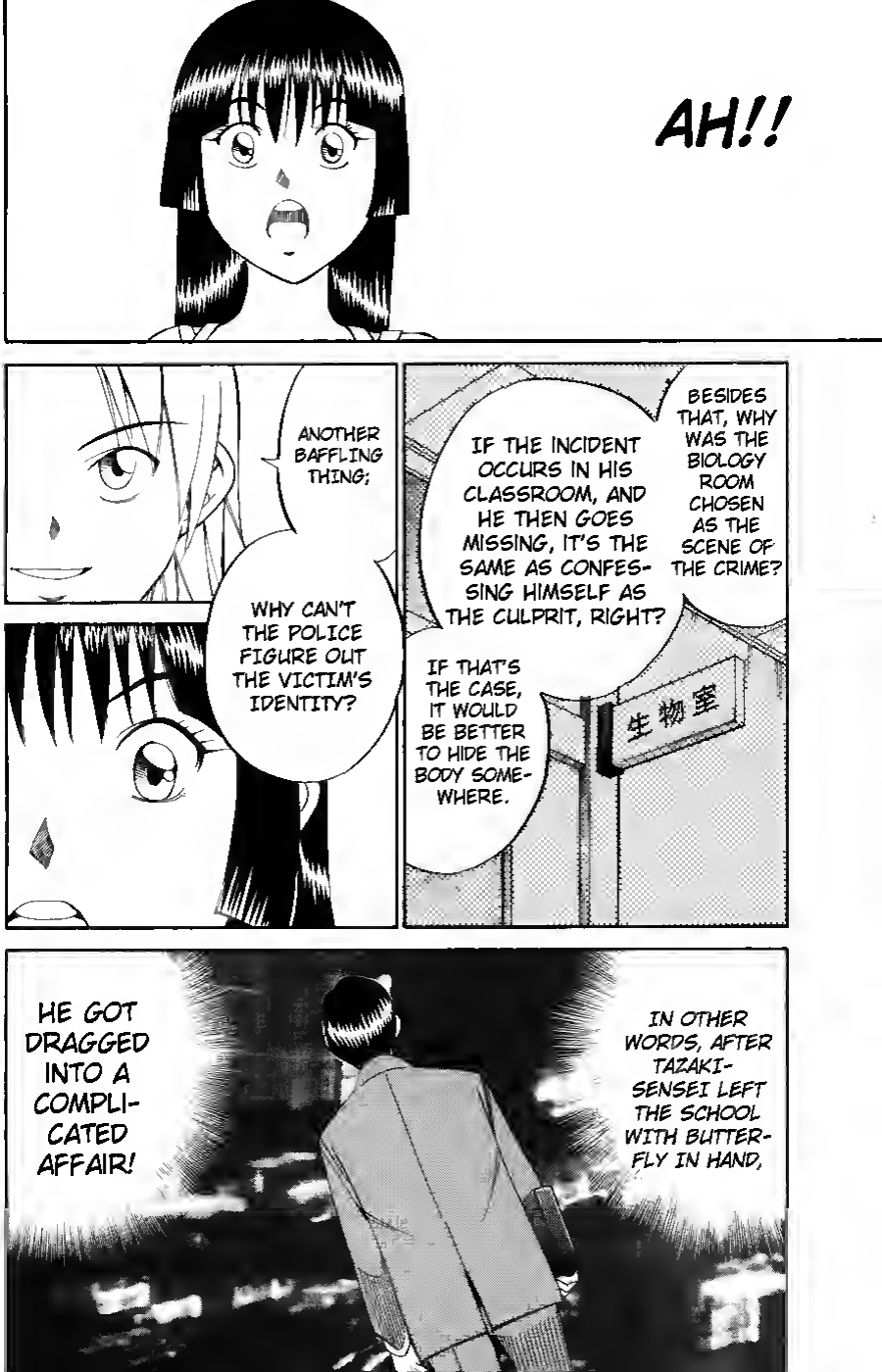
IN THE END, YOU DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING EITHER...
?
HAAH


I'M TELLING YOU, I'M NOT LYING!!
THIS TIME, IT BETTER TO BE THE TRUTH!

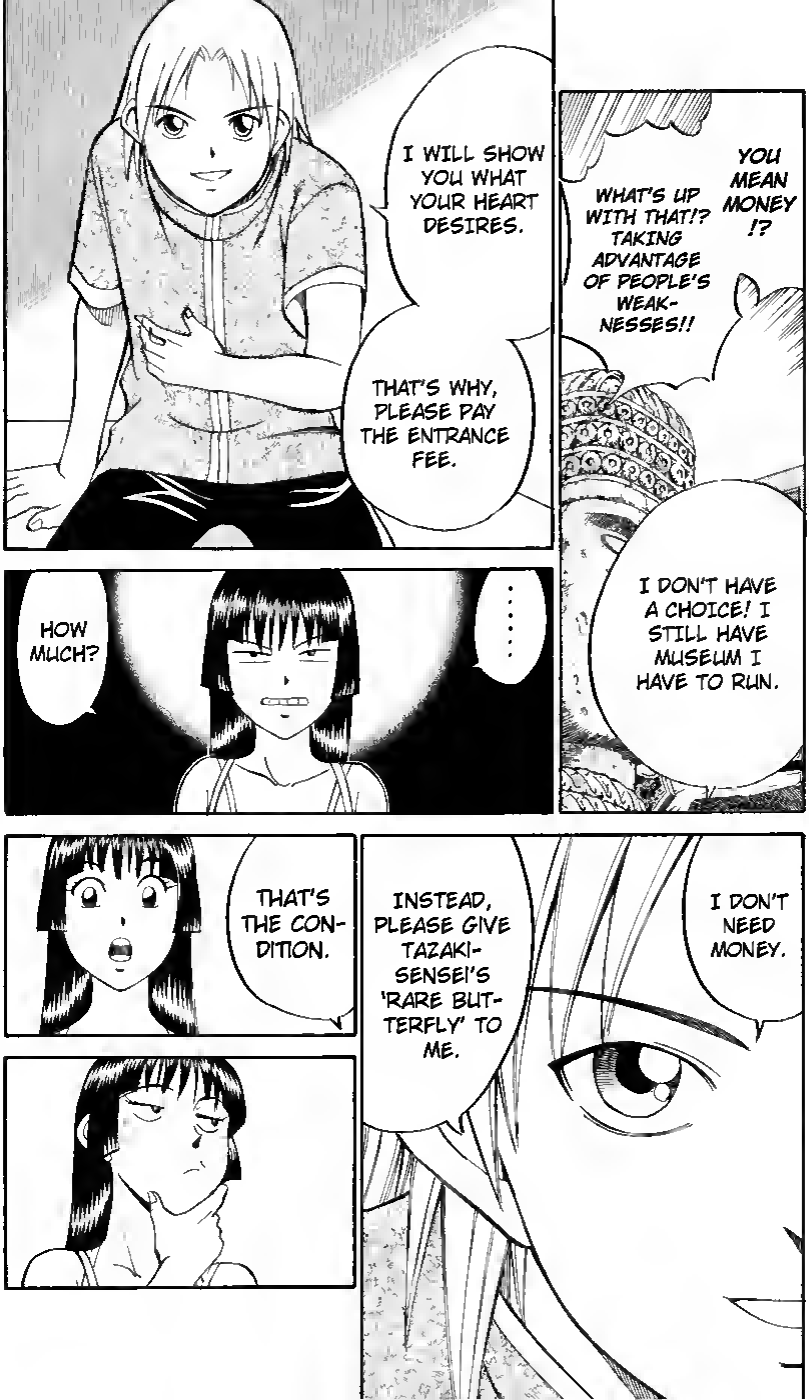
SO, THEY'VE FOUND AN UNIDENTIFIABLE BURNT CORPSE,
AND ARE LOOKING FOR THE WHEREABOUTS TAZAKI-SENSEI WHO BECAME THE SUSPECT?
O...
OFF THE MARK!?
THEY'RE PRETTY OFF THE MARK, HUH?
HAA!?
I WAS CURIOUS ABOUT THE BUTTERFLY I WAS MEANT TO BE SHOWN...
TRUTH BE TOLD, I SNUCK INTO THE BIOLOGY ROOM NOT LONG AGO.

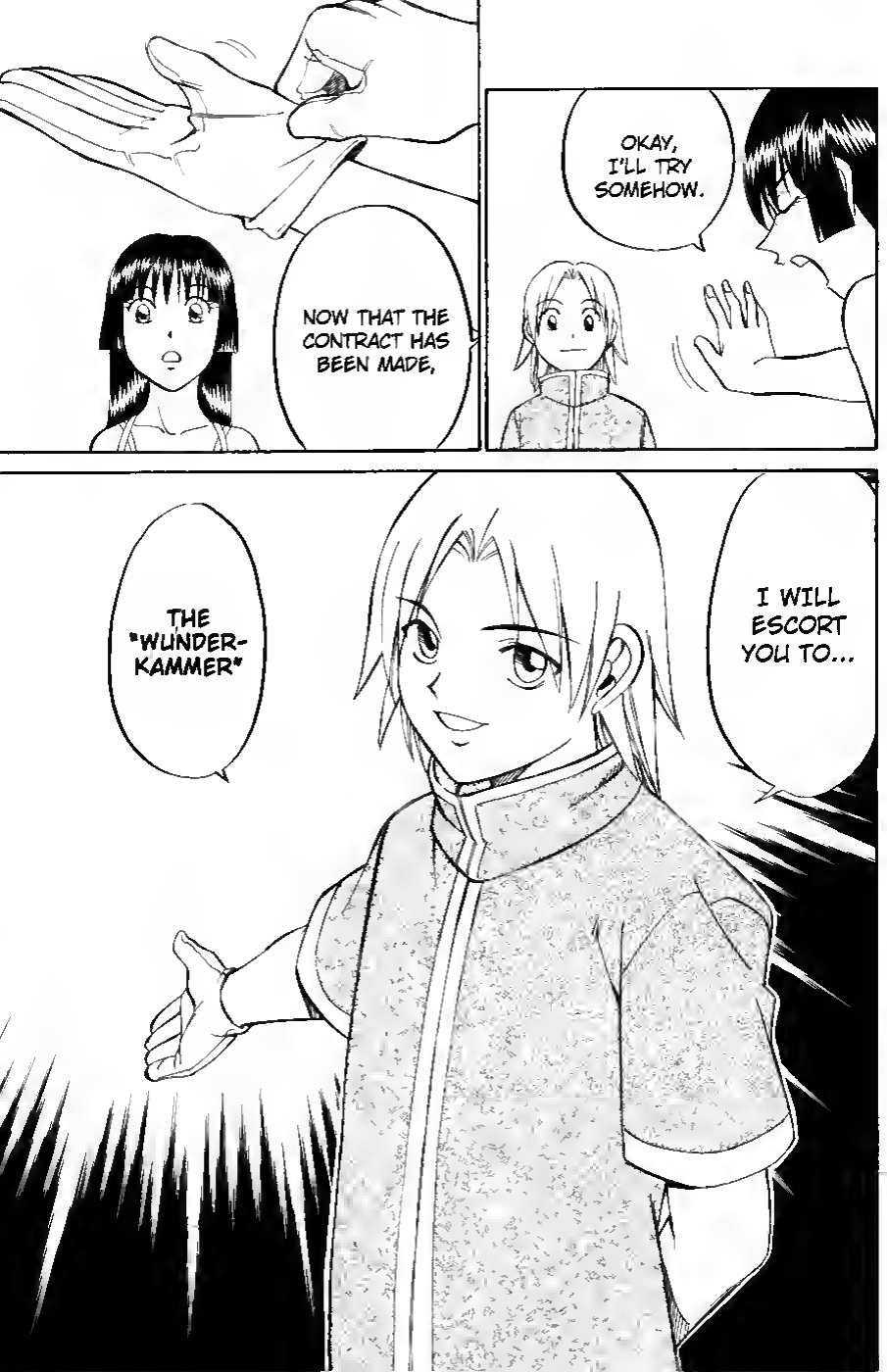

NO.
MAYBE IT'S AT HIS HOUSE?
BUT, THERE WERE JUST SPECIMENS THAT TAZAKI-SENSEI HAD SHOWN ME BEFORE.
SINCE HE SAID HE WOULD BRING IT TO HIS FRIEND, IMANISHI'S, PLACE STRAIGHT FROM SCHOOL, THE BUTTERFLY WOULD STILL HAVE TO HAVE BEEN THERE.
THERE WAS NOTHING RARE.
IN WHICH CASE, THE ONLY ONES WHO'D BE ABLE TO FIND IT IN A ROOM FULL OF NEW BUTTERFLY SPECIMENS ARE TAZAKI-SENSEI HIMSELF AND THOSE OF HIS FRIENDS WHO'VE SEEN IT BEFORE.
TAZAKI-SENSEI DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING OTHER THAN "RARE BUTERFLY",
THAT MEANS, THE ONE WHO TOOK IT WAS TAZAKI-SENSEI.
HOWEVER, NONE OF HIS FRIENDS KNEW THAT THE BUTTERFLY WAS AT THE SCHOOL.

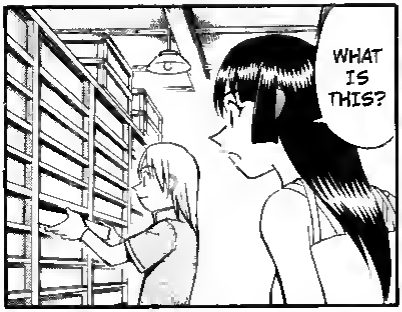

"BEFORE EXITING THE SCHOOL, TAZAKI-SENSEI COMMITED A MURDER USING 'SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUSTION' AND TOOK THE BUTTERFLY WITH HIM AS HE FLED"...
AS FAR AS THE POLICE AND JOURNALISTS ARE CONCERNED, THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED:
ARE YOU ALSO SAYING THAT TAZAKI-SENSEI IS THE CULPRIT!?
NO!
DON'T YOU THINK THAT THERE'S SOMETHING ODD ABOUT THIS EXPLANATION?
BY USING "SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUSTION", WHICH IS OCCURING AROUND THE WORLD, IT WOULD JUST SEEM LIKE IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, WOULDN'T IT?
IF MADE TO LOOK LIKE AN ACCIDENT.
THERE'S NO REASON FOR TAZAKI-SENSEI TO RUN AWAY.

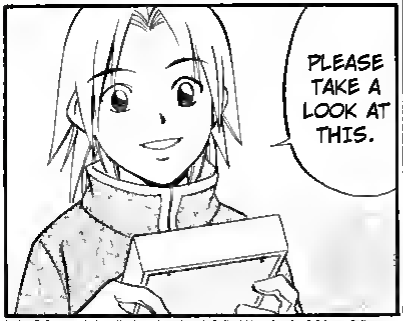

AH!!
ANOTHER BAFFLING THING;
WHY CAN'T THE POLICE FIGURE OUT THE VICTIM'S IDENTITY?
IF THE INCIDENT OCCURS IN HIS CLASSROOM, AND HE THEN GOES MISSING, IT'S THE SAME AS CONFESSING HIMSELF AS THE CULPRIT, RIGHT?
BESIDES THAT, WHY WAS THE BIOLOGY ROOM CHOSEN AS THE SCENE OF THE CRIME?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HIDE THE BODY SOMEWHERE.
生物室
HE GOT DRAGGED INTO A COMPLICATED AFFAIR!
IN OTHER WORDS, AFTER TAZAKI-SENSEI LEFT THE SCHOOL WITH BUTTERFLY IN HAND,

WHO IS THIS KID!?
IT'S LIKE HE SEES THROUGH EVERY-THING...!!
I'M VERY SORRY, MISS.
DON'T BEAT AROUND THE BUSH!
WHERE IS TAZAKI-SENSEI?
TO GO BEYOND THIS, YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY THE ENTRANCE FEE.

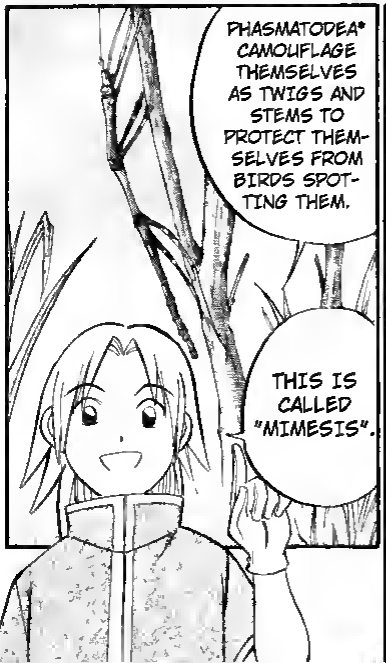

I WILL SHOW YOU WHAT YOUR HEART DESIRES.
THAT'S WHY, PLEASE PAY THE ENTRANCE FEE.
YOU MEAN MONEY !?
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT!? TAKING ADVANTAGE OF PEOPLE'S WEAK-NESSES!!
I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE! I STILL HAVE MUSEUM I HAVE TO RUN.
HOW MUCH?
.....
THAT'S THE CON-DITION.
INSTEAD, PLEASE GIVE TAZAKI-SENSEI'S 'RARE BUT-TERFLY' TO ME.
I DON'T NEED MONEY.

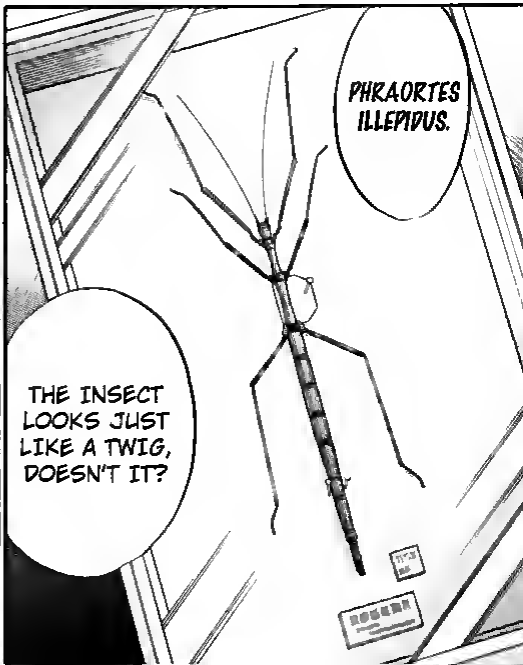

NOW THAT THE CONTRACT HAS BEEN MADE,
OKAY, I'LL TRY SOMEHOW.
I WILL ESCORT YOU TO...
THE "WUNDER-KAMMER"

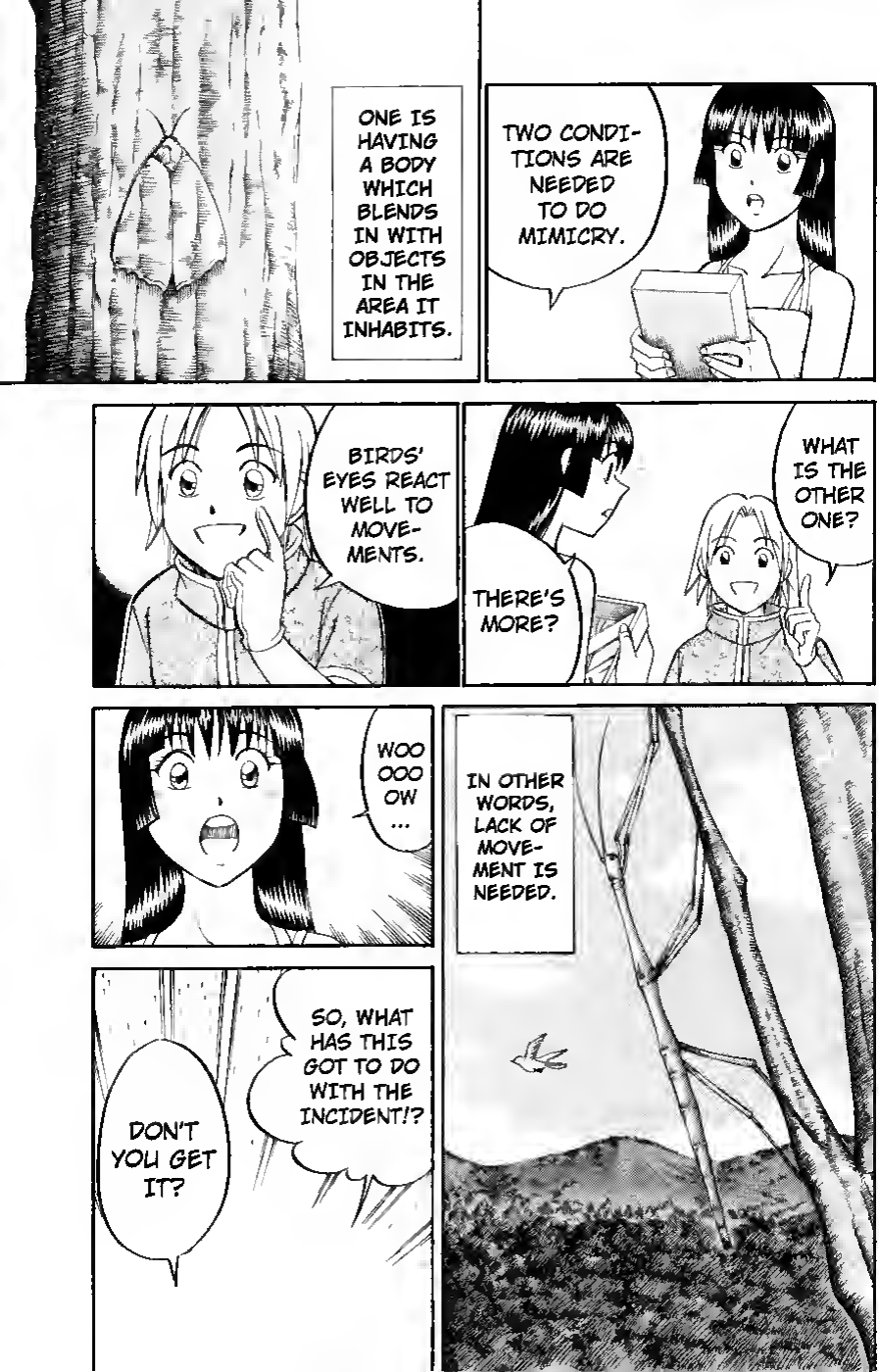


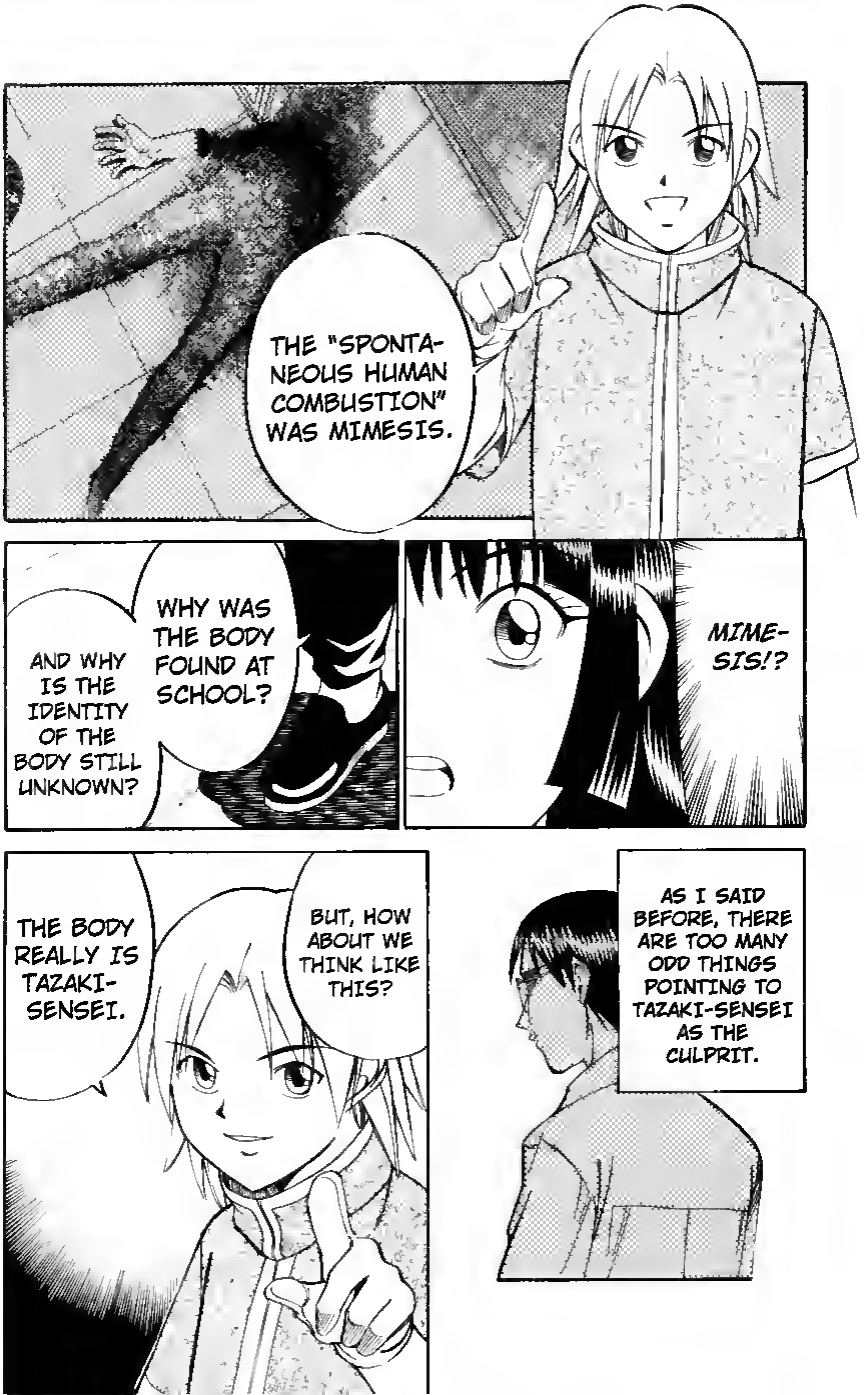


*MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS "WALKING STICKS"

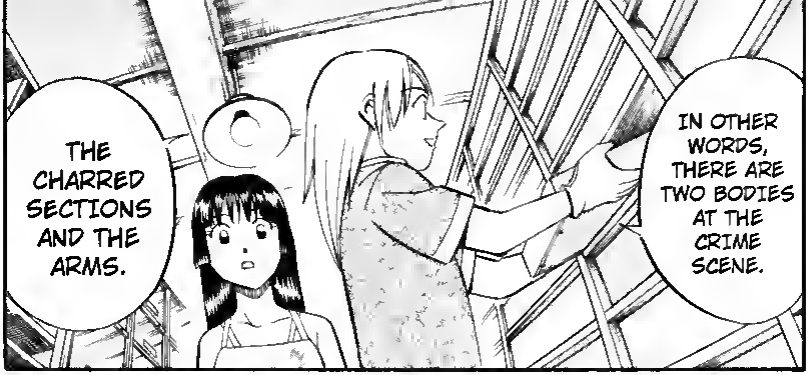

PHASMATODEA* CAMOUFLAGE THEMSELVES AS TWIGS AND STEMS TO PROTECT THEM-SELVES FROM BIRDS SPOT-TING THEM.
THIS IS CALLED "MIMESIS".

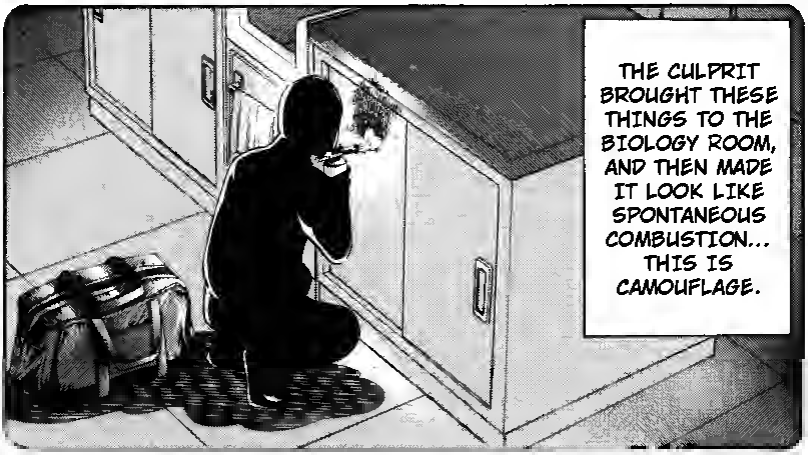


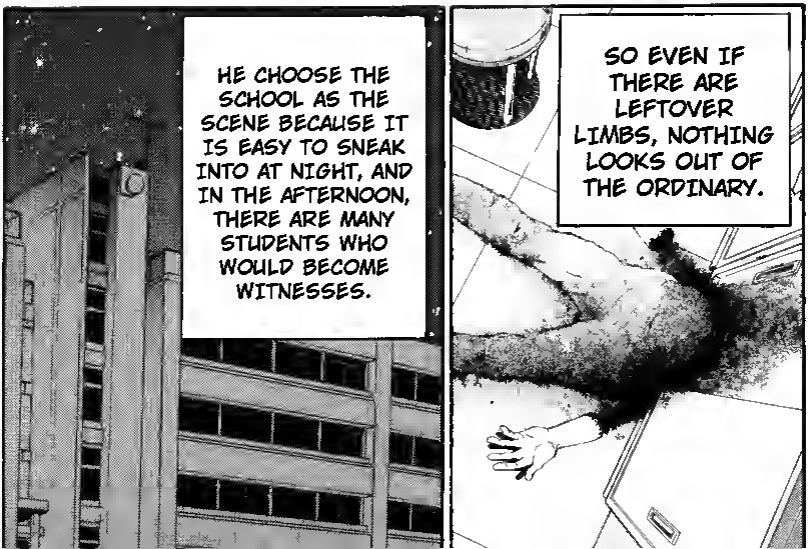

ONE IS HAVING A BODY WHICH BLENDS IN WITH OBJECTS IN THE AREA IT INHABITS.
TWO CONDITIONS ARE NEEDED TO DO MIMICRY.
BIRDS' EYES REACT WELL TO MOVEMENTS.
THERE'S MORE?
WHAT IS THE OTHER ONE?
WOOOOOW...
IN OTHER WORDS, LACK OF MOVEMENT IS NEEDED.
SO, WHAT HAS THIS GOT TO DO WITH THE INCIDENT!?
DON'T YOU GET IT?


THE "SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUSTION" WAS MIMESIS.
MIMESIS!?
WHY WAS THE BODY FOUND AT SCHOOL?
AND WHY IS THE IDENTITY OF THE BODY STILL UNKNOWN?
AS I SAID BEFORE, THERE ARE TOO MANY ODD THINGS POINTING TO TAZAKI-SENSEI AS THE CULPRIT.
BUT, HOW ABOUT WE THINK LIKE THIS?
THE BODY REALLY IS TAZAKI-SENSEI.

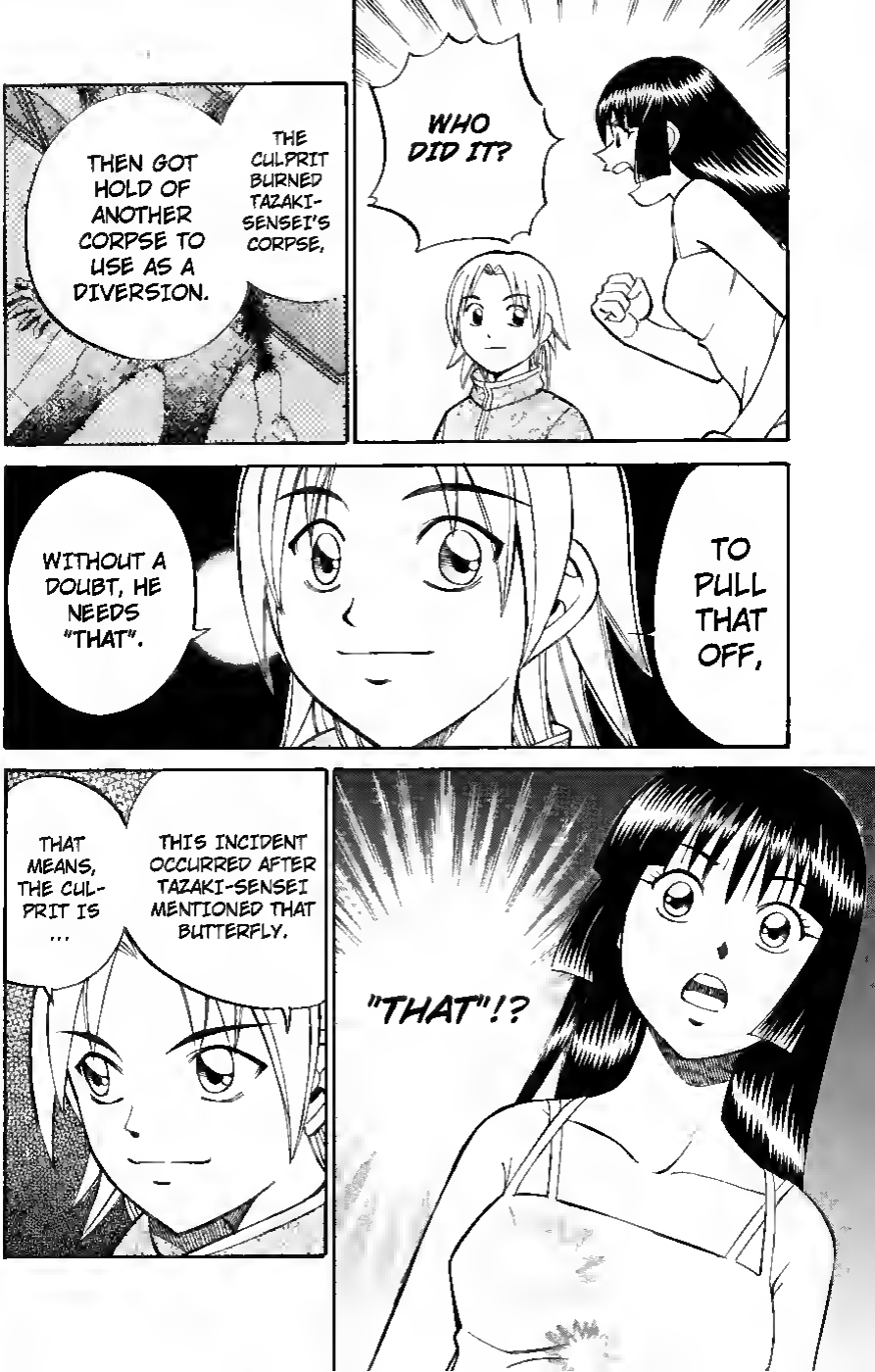
THAT'S TAZAKI-SENSEI!?
BUT, THE POLICE SAID THAT IT'S NOT...
WHAT WAS THIS CONCLUSION BASED ON?
MOST LIKELY ON THE FINGER-PRINTS OF THE REMAINING ARMS, RIGHT?
RATHER THAN PROCESSING THE DNA OF THE BURNT SECTIONS,
IT'S MUCH EASIER TO INVESTI-GATE THE REMAINING ARMS.
BUT, WHAT IF THOSE BURNT SECTIONS OF THE BODY IS TAZAKI-SENSEI?


THE CHARRED SECTIONS AND THE ARMS.
IN OTHER WORDS, THERE ARE TWO BODIES AT THE CRIME SCENE.


THE CULPRIT BROUGHT THESE THINGS TO THE BIOLOGY ROOM, AND THEN MADE IT LOOK LIKE SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION... THIS IS CAMOUFLAGE.


HE CHOOSE THE SCHOOL AS THE SCENE BECAUSE IT IS EASY TO SNEAK INTO AT NIGHT, AND IN THE AFTERNOON, THERE ARE MANY STUDENTS WHO WOULD BECOME WITNESSES.
SO EVEN IF THERE ARE LEFTOVER LIMBS, NOTHING LOOKS OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

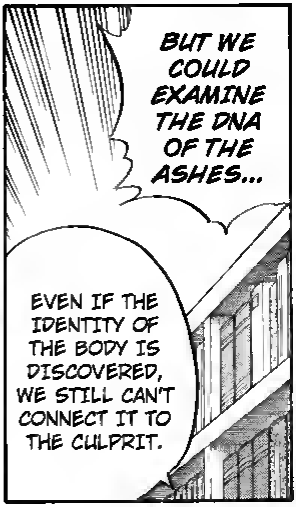
AS SUCH, IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE INTERPRETED AS A SENSATIONAL CASE OF "SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUSTION."
検証
高校人体発火事件
AND IF IT'S AN ACCIDENT THAT OCCURS IN A SCHOOL, THE MASS MEDIA WOULD BE ALL OVER IT.
MEANS THAT EVERYONE WILL THINK THAT CULPRIT CAN'T BE ANYONE OTHER THAN TAZAKI-SENSEI.
AND THAT THE CRIME SCENE WAS THE BIOLOGY ROOM...
THAT THE DISCOVERED REMAINS WEREN'T TAZAKI-SENSEI'S, BUT SOMEONE ELSES,
WHILE THE REAL KILLER IS GETTING AWAY.
THE KILLED TEACHER IS THOUGHT TO HAVE FLED.


WHO DID IT?
THE CULPRIT BURNED TAZAKI-SENSEI'S CORPSE,
THEN GOT HOLD OF ANOTHER CORPSE TO USE AS A DIVERSION.
TO PULL THAT OFF,
WITHOUT A DOUBT, HE NEEDS "THAT".
"THAT"!?
THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED AFTER TAZAKI-SENSEI MENTIONED THAT BUTTERFLY.
THAT MEANS, THE CULPRIT IS ...

ONE OF THE PEOPLE I MET TODAY!!

BUT THERE'S NO EVI-DENCE.
IF WE EXPLAIN THIS TO THE POLICE ...

HANG ON, HANG ON!
SO YOU MEAN IT WILL JUST END LIKE THIS!?


BUT WE COULD EXAMINE THE DNA OF THE ASHES...
EVEN IF THE IDENTITY OF THE BODY IS DISCOVERED, WE STILL CAN'T CONNECT IT TO THE CULPRIT.

THE BUT-TERFLY?!
MAYBE THE CULPRIT HAS IT...
THERE'S A MISSING ITEM IN THIS CASE, RIGHT?
FOR THE BIRD TO SEE THROUGH THE MIMESIS, THE INSECT JUST HAS TO MOVE.
I SAID IT FROM THE START, DIDN'T I?
WHOEVER HAS IT IS THE KILLER.
BUT HOW ARE WE GONNA FIND OUT?
BUT WE'LL NEED SOMEONE'S HELP...

LADIES AND GENTLE MEN...
FOR HAVING SO MANY ESTEEMED INSECT COLLEC TORS GATHERED HERE TONIGHT
WE ARE TRULY GRATEFUL.

LONG AGO, INSECT COLLECTIONS WERE THE STATUS SYMBOLS OF NOBLEMEN.
MY MASTER, WHO'S HOSTING THIS PARTY, IS ALSO A BIG COLLECTOR.
AND HE WANTS TO SEE THE REBIRTH OF THE COLLECTOR COMMUNITY.
SFX: CLAP CLAP
I'M SURE THAT ALL THE GENTLEMEN HERE ARE FAMOUS COLLECTORS.
SO PLEASE SHOW OFF YOUR PRIDE AND JOYS AND MAKE THIS PARTY A FUN ONE.
A FABULOUS PARTY, ISN'T IT?
IT'S VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE USUAL MEETINGS.
I ALWAYS LET YOU HANG UP POSTERS FOR THE TROUPE, RIGHT? SO YOU'LL DO IT, RIGHT?

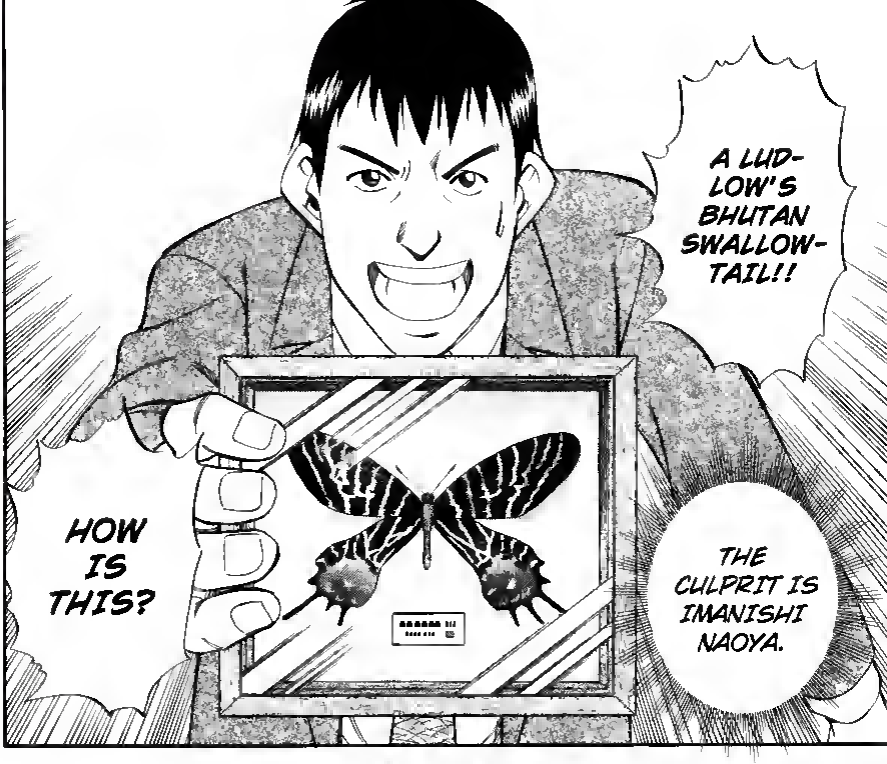
I WANT TO MAKE HIS ACQUAINTANCE AND HAVE HIM SHOW ME.
IN THAT CASE, I TOO...
THE HOST CERTAINLY IS RICH, HUH?
HIS COLLECTION'S PROBABLY PRETTY AMAZING TOO, RIGHT?
WILL HAVE TO SHOW HIM MY GREATEST ONE!
MINE IS A KAISER-I-HIND.
VERY FASCINATING.
THIS IS MY MORPHO ABSOLONI, HOW IS IT?
NO!!
THIS APOLLO BUTTERFLY IS ...
MINE IS A DORCUS NEPALENSIS.

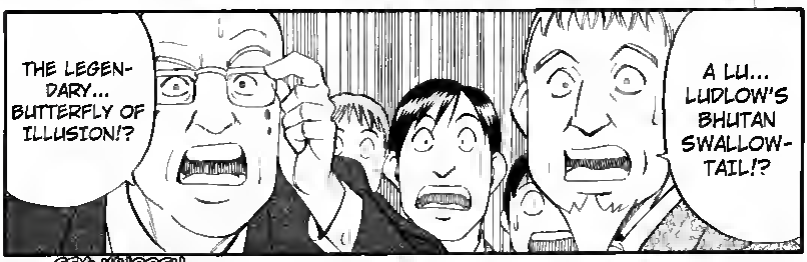
IT'S NOT THAT ONE.
WILL THE CULPRIT BE CAUGHT?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SHINRA?
WHAT'S THIS FUSS?
WILL MY BROTHER'S BUTTERFLY REALLY APPEAR?
HAVING THIS PARTY ...
MAYBE THE CULPRIT STOLE A CADAVER THAT WAS USED BY MEDICAL STUDENTS.
BUT WHERE'D HE GET THAT FROM!?
BESIDES, YOU SAID THAT THE ARMS WERE FROM A SECOND CORPSE.

IF YOU PLEASE.
NOW,
THAT'S WHY THE IDENTITY OF THE REMAINS IS UNKNOWN..
IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S REALLY SOMEONE WHO DIED BEFORE THE MURDER.
LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT A PART OF MY MASTER'S COLLECTION.
NOW THEN, EVERYONE...
SFX WHP

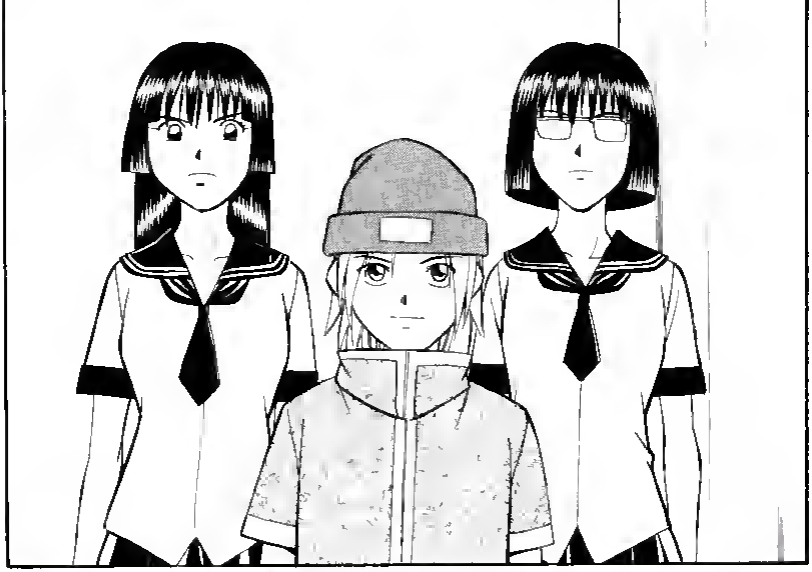
SCOR-
PION
STAG
BEETLE!?
YOU'RE
KIDDING,
RIGHT!?
GOLDEN
KAISER-
I-HIND!!
LET ME
SEE!
ARE
THEY
REAL!?
MAY
I TAKE A
PICTURE
!?
THAT'S
WHAT
BEING A
COLLECTOR
IS.
THE
CULPRIT
WILL
MAKE A
MOVE.
THE BUTTERFLY
HE BROUGHT
IS THE RAREST
AND MOST
BEAUTIFUL
ONE.

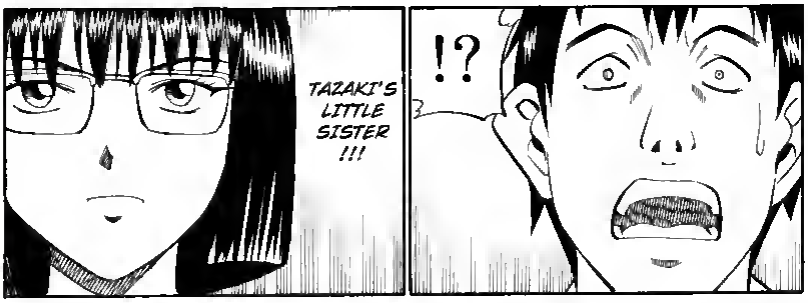
A CAR!
THE CULPRIT BURNED TAZAKI-SENSEI'S CORPSE.
THEN, STOLE ANOTHER CORPSE.
TO TRANSPORT THEM BY HIMSELF, HE NEEDS A CERTAIN THING.
A PERSON AMONG THE THREE WHO COULD DRIVE THAT DAY...
I WENT DRINKING WITH MY FRIENDS.
I WENT HOME ON THE LAST BUS, AS USUAL.
AND THEN, THE PERSON WHO STOLE THE BODY, WELL VERSED IN THE INNER WORKINGS OF A LARGE HOSPITAL.
THE CLINICAL TRIAL RESULTS I ASKED FOR ARE IN.
I ALSO HAVE A RARE SPECIMEN!!

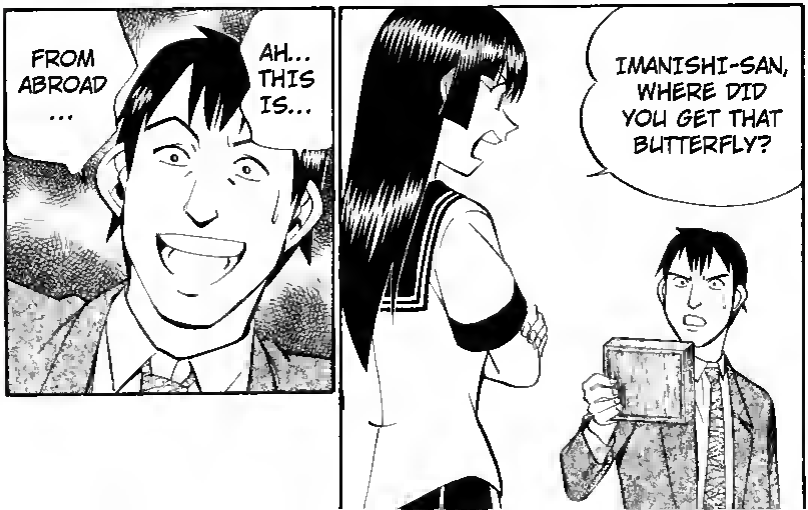

A LUD-LOW'S BHUTAN SWALLOW-TAIL!!
HOW IS THIS?
THE CULPRIT IS IMANISHI NAOYA.


THE LEGEN-DARY... BUTTERFLY OF ILLUSION!?
A LU... LUDLOW'S BHUTAN SWALLOW-TAIL!?

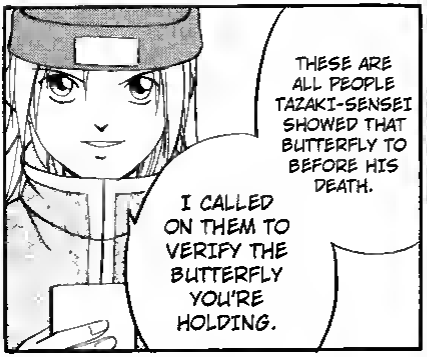
SFX: WHOOSH
IT IS.

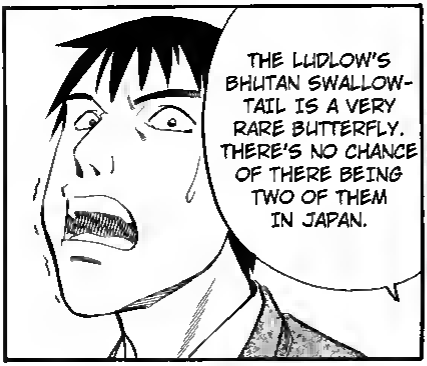



TAZAKI'S LITTLE SISTER !!!
!?


FROM ABROAD ...
AH... THIS IS...
IMANISHI-SAN, WHERE DID YOU GET THAT BUTTERFLY?

IS EKODA-SAN HERE?
HERE.
HAVE YOU SEEN THIS BUTTERFLY BEFORE?
I SAW IT IN TAZAKI-KUN'S COLLEC-TION.
ISHI-ZUKA-SAN?
I SAW IT TOO.
OIZU-MI-SAN?
ME TOO.
IWA-MAT-SU-SAN?
I ALSO SAW IT.


I CALLED ON THEM TO VERIFY THE BUTTERFLY YOU'RE HOLDING.
THESE ARE ALL PEOPLE TAZAKI-SENSEI SHOWED THAT BUTTERFLY TO BEFORE HIS DEATH.


THE LUDLOW'S BHUTAN SWALLOW-TAIL IS A VERY RARE BUTTERFLY. THERE'S NO CHANCE OF THERE BEING TWO OF THEM IN JAPAN.

!?
W... WHAT IS THIS!?

YOU KILLED TAZAKI-SENSEI,
AND STOLE THAT BUT-TERFLY.

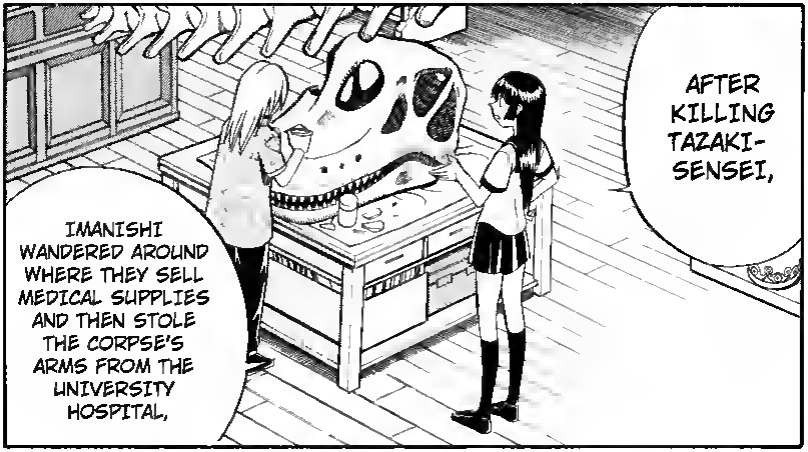
N... NO...!! I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL HIM!!
I JUST ASKED HIM TO TRADE OUR COLLECTIONS!!
AND THEN WE QUARRELED...
I PUSHED HIM A LITTLE, AND HE COLLAPSED ...!!

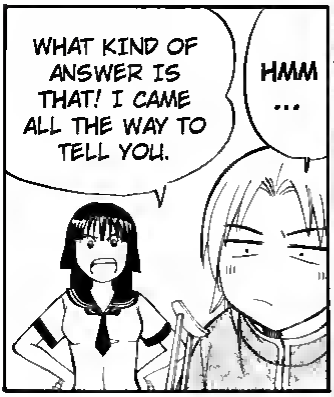
UWAA AAA!!
AH, THAT WAS PROMISED TO ME...

EVI-
DENCE?
THAT WASN'T THE DEAL!!
SO WE GAVE THAT BUTTER-FLY TO THE POLICE.
YES, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID THAT, RIGHT?
AFTER THE INVESTIGATION IS OVER, I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU.

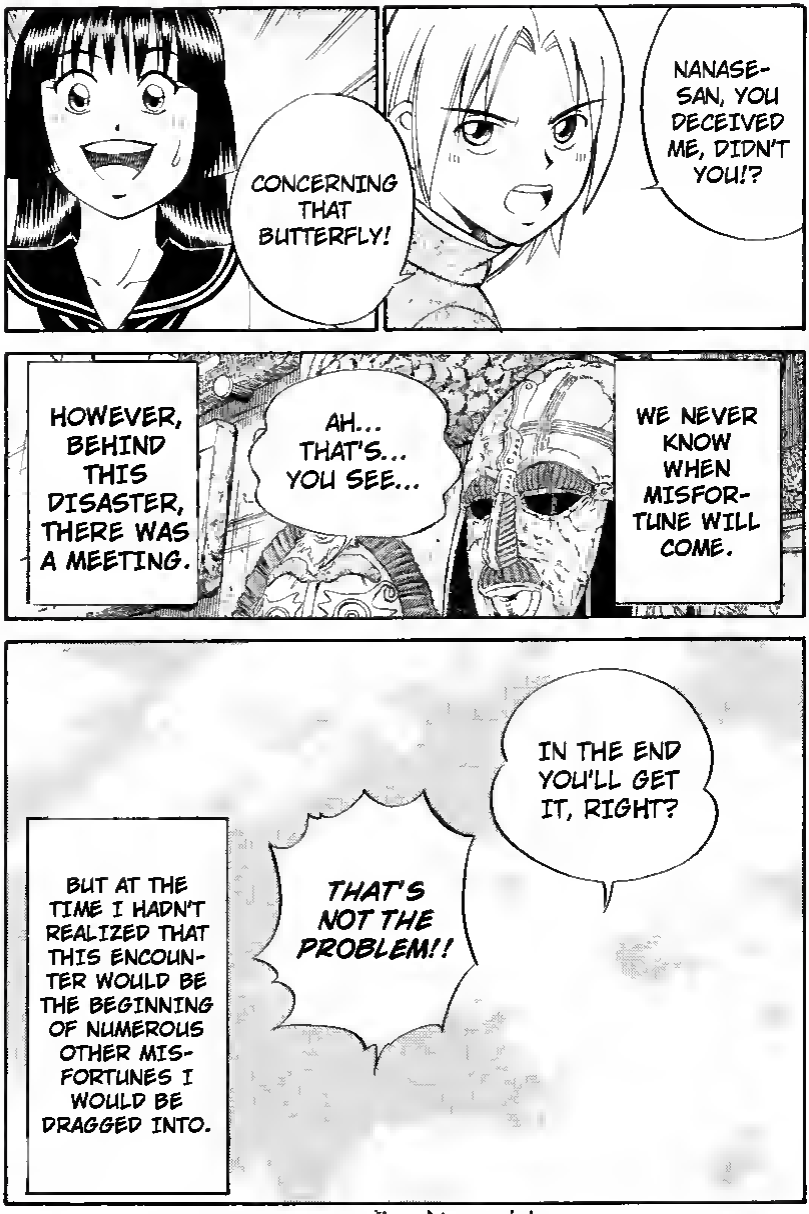
WHEN I DO, PLEASE LOOK AFTER IT CAREFULLY,
SO MY BROTHER WILL BE HAPPY TOO.
WHAT'S WRONG? WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT YOUR RINGS?
AH... NOTHING.

SO ...
CLICK CLICK CLICK


AFTER KILLING TAZAKI-SENSEI,
IMANISHI WANDERED AROUND WHERE THEY SELL MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND THEN STOLE THE CORPSE'S ARMS FROM THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL,


HMM ...
WHAT KIND OF ANSWER IS THAT! I CAME ALL THE WAY TO TELL YOU.

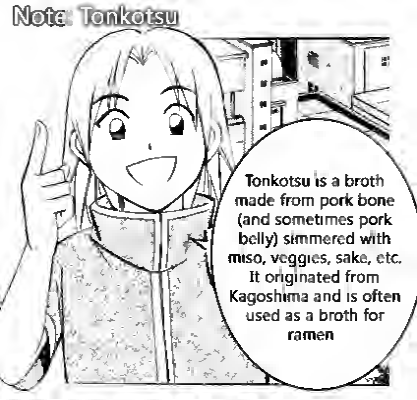
AND THEN WENT TO WHERE HE DOES CERAMICS AND BURNED THE BODY IN THE FURNACE, MAKING IT APPEAR TO BE SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUS-TION.


NANASE-SAN, YOU DECEIVED ME, DIDN'T YOU!?
CONCERNING THAT BUTTERFLY!
WE NEVER KNOW WHEN MISFOR-TUNE WILL COME.
AH... THAT'S... YOU SEE...
HOWEVER, BEHIND THIS DISASTER, THERE WAS A MEETING.
IN THE END YOU'LL GET IT, RIGHT?
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM!!
BUT AT THE TIME I HADN'T REALIZED THAT THIS ENCOUN-TER WOULD BE THE BEGINNING OF NUMEROUS OTHER MIS-FORTUNES I WOULD BE DRAGGED INTO.

—Op.01:擬態完—

Mimicry end

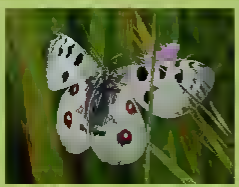
C M B KATOU MOTOHIRO


Note: Tonkotsu
Tonkotsu is a broth made from pork bone (and sometimes pork belly) simmered with miso, veggies, sake, etc. It originated from Kagoshima and is often used as a broth for ramen

Notes

A Morpho butterfly may be one of over 80 species of the genus Morpho. They are Neotropical butterflies found mostly in South America as well as Mexico and Central America. Morphos range in wingspan from the 7.5 cm (3 inch) M. rhodopteron to the imposing 20 cm (8 inch) Sunset Morpho M. hecuba. The name Morpho, meaning changed or modified, is also an epithet of Aphrodite and Venus.

Dorcus is a genus of the family Lucanidae of stag beetles. Of the 30-odd species, most occur in Asia and India; two are found in southern Europe, and three species are from North America.



The Apollo or Mountain Apollo (Parnassius apollo), is a butterfly of the Papilionidae family. It is found on mountains in Europe usually above 1000m up to 2000m, preferring flowery meadows and mountain pastures. This species is of interest to entomologists due to the variety of subspecies, often only restricted to a specific valley in the alps. Related species can be found all over the world. The caterpillar's favorite food plant is Stonecrop.

The Kaiser-i-Hind (Teinopalpus imperialis) is a rare species of swallowtail butterfly, native to India. The common name literally means "Emperor of India". The Kaiser-i-hind is much sought after by butterfly collectors for its beauty and rarity.

The Golden Kaiserihind (Teinopalpus aureus) is a species of butterfly in the Papilionidae family. It is found in China and possibly Vietnam.

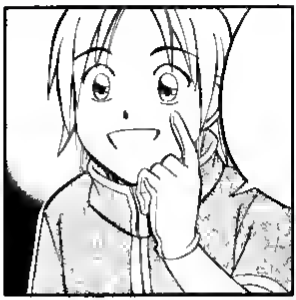
Ludlow's Bhutan Swallowtail (Bhutanitis ludlowi) is a species of butterfly in the Papilionidae family. It belongs to the subfamily Parnassiinae which also contains the Apollo butterflies.

source: http://en.wikipedia.org/

NOTES:

Several pages: Mimicry, mimesis, and camouflage.

IN ENGLISH, THESE THREE WORDS ARE DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT. MIMICRY MEANS IMITATING AN ORGANISM, CAMOUFLAGE IS IMITATING YOUR SURROUNDINGS, WHILE MIMESIS IS A MIX OF THE TWO, E.G. A WALKING STICK IMITATING A PLANT, WHICH IS BOTH PART OF ITS SURROUNDINGS, BUT IS ALSO AN ORGANISM. MIMESIS IS ALSO AN UMBRELLA TERM FOR MIMICRY, CAMOUFLAGE, REPRESENTATION, IMITATION, ETC.

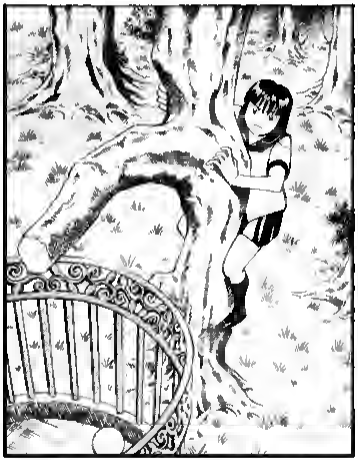


IN JAPANESE, HOWEVER, ALL THREE WORDS ARE JUST CALLED "GITAI" (擬態), SO IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT THE AUTHOR SIMPLY WASN'T AWARE OF THE DIFFERENCES IN MEANING WHEN HE NAMED THE CHAPTER "MIMICRY". WE HAVE THUS USED THE DEFINITION THAT FIT BEST IN A GIVEN SITUATION.

Mimicry: Part One

-- Text Supplier: Amane -- Translator: Ryo --
RAW Cleaner: Motte -- Proofreader: BamBam
-- Typesetter: Tsunao -- QC: Hecko

THE BEST WAY TO ENTER A MUSEUM!



THANKS FOR ANZU & DRACO 1988
FOR THE RAWS

Orion Wave

C.M.B

Mimicry: Part Two

-- Text Supplier: Amane -- RAW Cleaner: Motte --
Translator: Ryo -- Proofreader: BamBam
-- Typesetter: Tsunao -- QC: Hecko --

MORAL LESSON:

NEVER STAND IN FRONT OF NANASE'S ON BIKE.

THANKS FOR ANZU & DRACO 1988
FOR THE RAWS

Orion Wave

C.M.B

Mimicry: Part Three

-- Text Supplier: Amane -- Translator: Ryo --
RAW Cleaner: Motte -- Proofreader: SpiffyBug
-- Typesetter: Tsunao -- QC: Argentscarf --

AND THAT, IS THE PURPOSE OF SHINRA'S COLLAR, FOLKS!

THANKS FOR ANZU & DRACO 1988 FOR THE RAWS

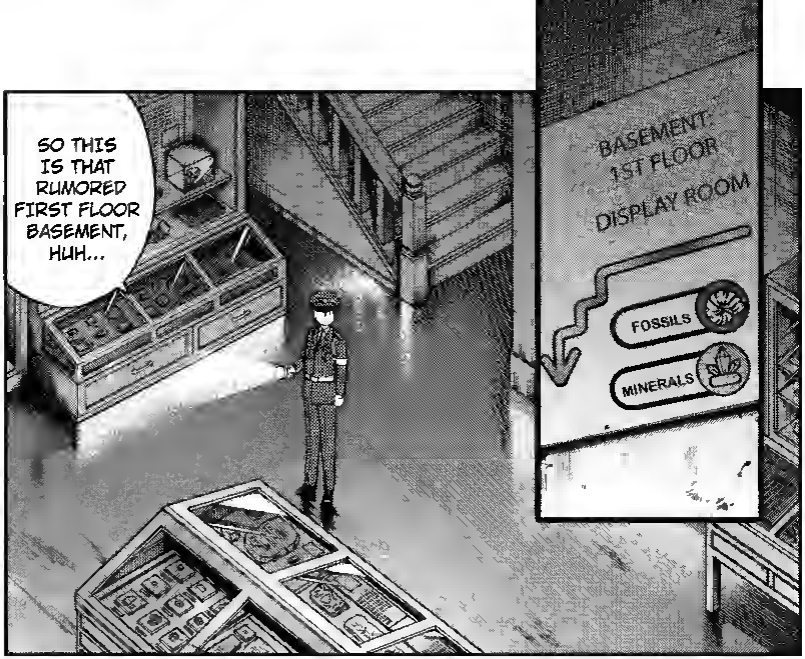
Orion Wave

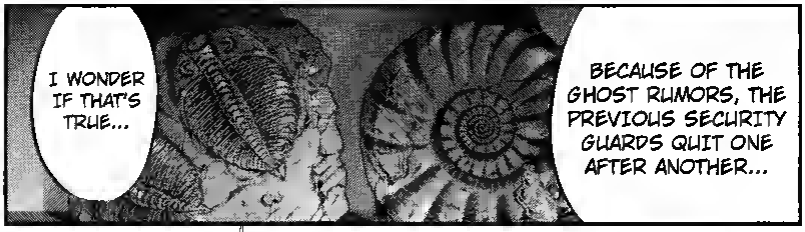
C.M.B

Op.02

GHOST IN THE MUSEUM

Y CITY MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE
SECURITY GUARD TACHIBANA YOSHIKO
警
STEP
STEP


SO THIS IS THAT RUMORED FIRST FLOOR BASEMENT, HUH...
BASEMENT 1ST FLOOR DISPLAY ROOM
FOSSILS
MINERALS


I WONDER IF THAT'S TRUE...
BECAUSE OF THE GHOST RUMORS, THE PREVIOUS SECURITY GUARDS QUIT ONE AFTER ANOTHER...

SHUT
?
DON'T BE AFRAID!
FOR THE SAKE OF MY BELOVED CHILD, I NEED TO KEEP THIS JOB!

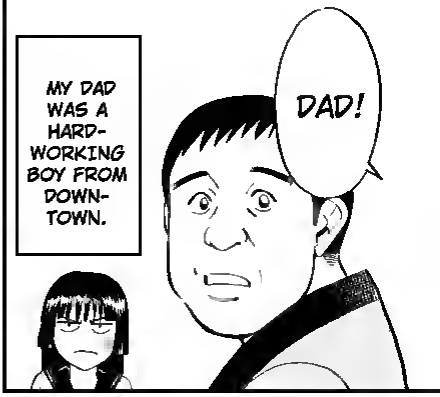
THE LIGHT IS FLICKERING ON AND OFF? BUT THE ELECTRICITY SHOULD'VE BEEN TURNED OFF ALREADY...
HU
HU
MOAN
!?
HU
HU
MOAN
MOAN
HU
HU
THAT SOUNDS LIKE BANGING ON THE WALLS AND PEOPLE CRYING..
SO THERE REALLY IS A GHOST HERE!?
MOAN

EVERY-ONE MUST HAVE A WEAK-NESS.
AND THERE ARE VARIOUS WAYS TO BEAT THAT WEAKNESS.
YOU GOT THAT TATSUKI? I'M A PERSON OF IRRE-PROACHABLE CONDUCT.

THE METHOD THAT I'M USING IS SELF SUGGES-TION.
CALM AND ELEGANT,
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE FOR ME TO INTIMIDATE OTHERS USING MY PHYSICAL STRENGTH.
SFX:
THIS WAY, I WON'T ACT BRUTALLY IN SCHOOL.
FOR SURE!
OKAY! PER-FECT!
SFX: GRAB
SFX: STEP
HAAAAAHH!!

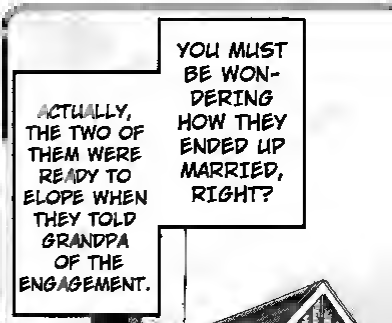
SFX: SLAM
AS USUAL, YOUR TECHNIQUE IS EXCELLENT, TATSUKI!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, DAD?
THIS IS HOW I'M SAYING GOOD MORNING.
MY SUGGESTION IS DESTROYED!

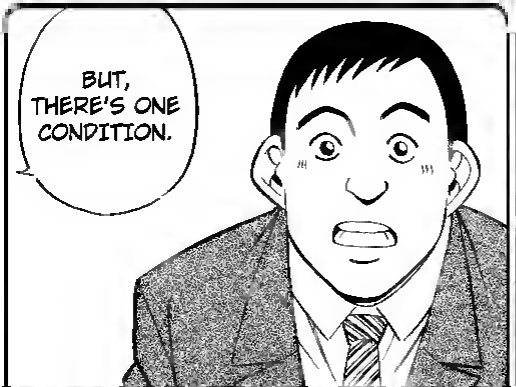
THE VACUUM CLEANER IS NOT WORKING.
WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CHANGED THE BAG?


MY DAD WAS A HARD-WORKING BOY FROM DOWN-TOWN.
DAD!

SFX: WHOOSH
MY MOM WAS RAISED AS A SPARKLING YOUNG LADY FROM A WEALTHY FAMILY.
AROUND HALF A YEAR AGO.

HAHAHA! GO RIGHT AHEAD!
BUT HE SEEMED TO NOT MIND AT ALL


YOU MUST BE WON-DERING HOW THEY ENDED UP MARRIED, RIGHT?
ACTUALLY, THE TWO OF THEM WERE READY TO ELOPE WHEN THEY TOLD GRANDPA OF THE ENGAGEMENT.


BUT, THERE'S ONE CONDITION.

AS GRANDPA WAS ASKING FOR THEIR FUTURE CHILD TO BE ENROLLED IN A SCHOOL WHERE HE RESIDES AS THE HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION.
AND IT WAS SUCH A HEAVY CONDITION.
THE SPIRITUAL ATMOSPHERE WAS REALLY SINKING IN.
WHAT'S YOUR IMPRESSION OF LAST NIGHT'S BERLINER CONCERT?
ALRIGHT NOW, LET OUT MY FIGHTING SPIRIT, AND TRY TO BE A WELL-BEHAVED LADY!
A FAMOUS SCHOOL,
WHERE RICH AND IMPORTANT PEOPLE CHOOSE TO EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN.

IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE TO GO TO A SCHOOL LIKE THIS?
NATU-RALLY...
SFX: HIT
WATCH OUT!
SFX: THROW
CATCH THE FRICKIN' BALL NEXT TIME!
SFX: CATCH
WHOA--AA

IT STRESSES ME OUT.
NANASE! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
I'M FEELING WEAK...
WELL, THE PLACE FOR ME TO LET LOOSE THAT PENT UP FRUSTRATION...
AIKIDO DOJO
IS HERE!

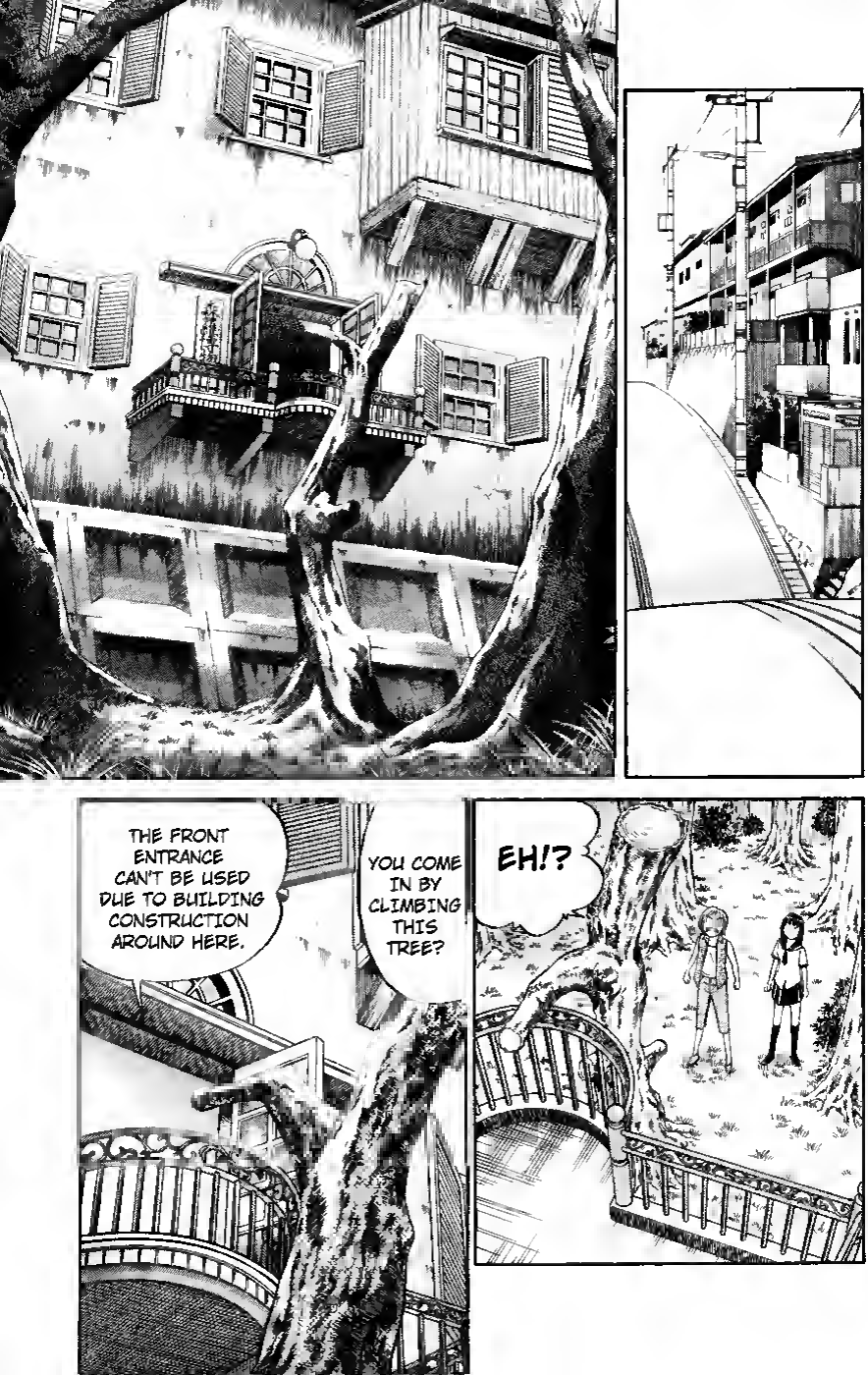
THE SHARPNESS OF NANASE'S MOVES ARE INDEED NUMBER ONE IN THIS DOJO.
AFTER STARTING SENIOR HIGH, SHE'S BECOME EVEN STRONGER.
GREAT FORM, TATSUKI -CHAN.
TACHI-BANA-SAN!
HO~ORAY♥ SHOU-KUN IS HERE AS WELL?
YOU'RE NOT ON GUARD DUTY TODAY?
NO, I HAVE THE NIGHT SHIFT FOR TODAY. SO AFTER DROPPING SHOU OFF, I'LL BE GOING TO WORK.

NO PROB-LEM.
IF YOU DON'T MIND, MAY I HAVE A ROUND TO CHASE AWAY MY SLEEPI-NESS?
SFX: SLAP
SFX: TWIST
GOTCHA!
SHE TWISTED IT?

SFX: CRASH
HA HA HA
IT SEEMS THAT FOR THE TIME BEING I WON'T BE ABLE TO BEAT YOU.
IS THERE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND, SENPAI?
YOUR MOVES ARE A BIT WEIRD.

I, IT'S NOT THAT I'M SCARED.
GHOSTS IN THE MUSEUM?
AT NIGHT THERE'S A SOUND OF BANGING ON THE WALLS.
AS WELL AS PEOPLE CRYING, THAT'S ALL.
BUT FOR SOMETHING SO STRANGE TO HAPPEN, IT REALLY MAKES ME FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE... BESIDES, IF SOMETHING BAD WERE TO HAPPEN TO ME, WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THIS CHILD...
EVER SINCE I DIVORCED MY HUSBAND AND DECIDED TO RAISE THIS KID ON MY OWN, I'M READY TO FACE ALL THE RISKS THAT MAY COME WITH MY JOB.
AND I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE THIS ONE.

IF ONLY THERE WAS SOMEONE I COULD CONSULT ABOUT THIS.
GHOST'S CASE..
A MUSEUM EXPERT?
SFX: PONG
WELL, NO USE IN ASKING A HIGH SCHOOL KID.
I'LL BE GOING THEN.
WAIT!
駅
I THOUGHT OF SOME-ONE.
BUT I CAN'T GUARANTEE HOW USEFUL HE WILL BE.


THE FRONT ENTRANCE CAN'T BE USED DUE TO BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AROUND HERE.
YOU COME IN BY CLIMBING THIS TREE?
EH!?

森羅博物館
SHINRA MUSEUM.
IT REALLY IS A MUSEUM?
WON'T HE THINK WE'RE THIEVES?
EVEN IF A ROBBER REALLY CAME IN, HE'D GREET HIM WITH A WARM WELCOME, I'M SURE

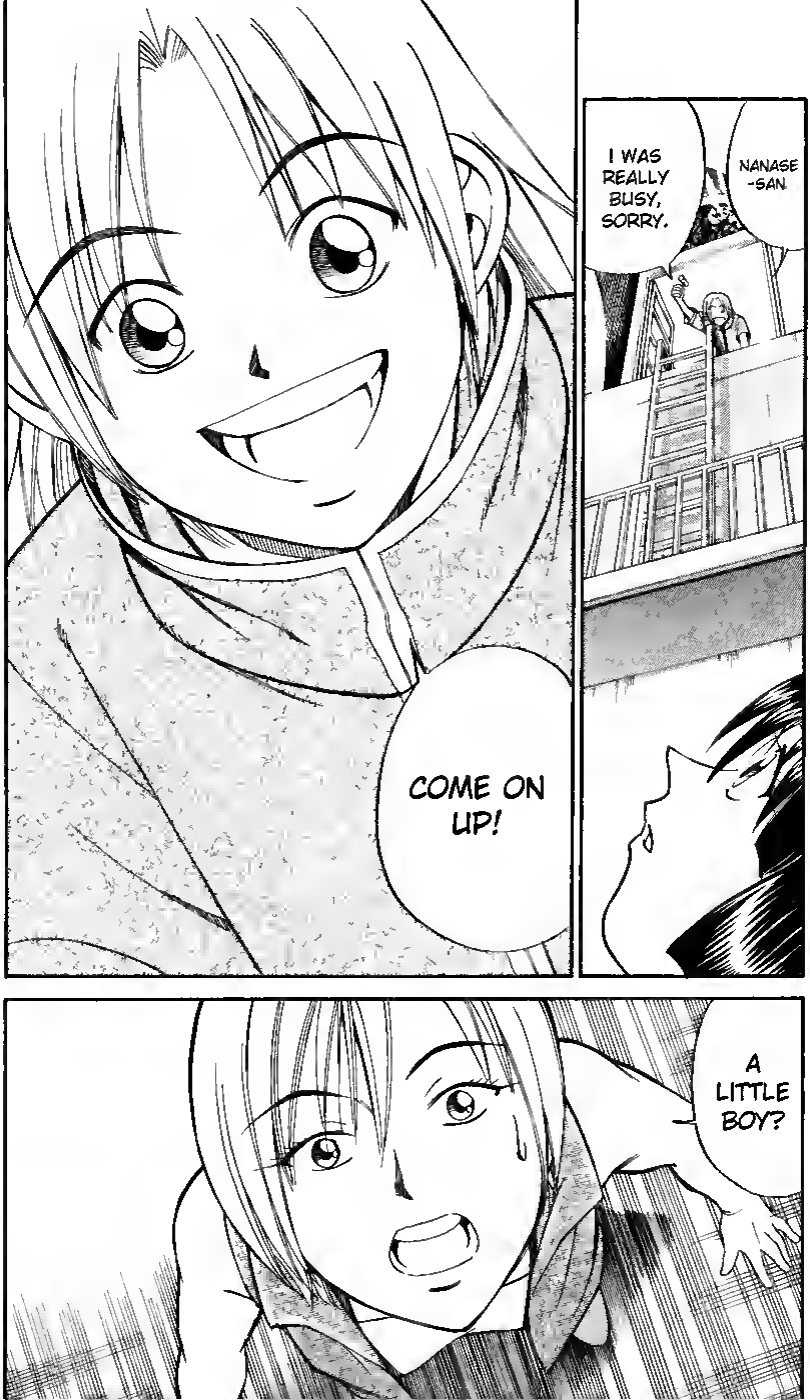
AWESOME!
IS THIS A PRIVATE MUSEUM?

HE'S REALLY NOT WHAT YOU'RE EXPECTING.
Not exactly...
HE MUST SURELY BE A GREAT PROFESSOR FROM A FAMOUS UNIVERSITY, RIGHT!

MUSEUM CURATOR!

SHINRA!
HOWEVER, IT SEEMS THAT NO ONE IS HERE.

WELCOME!

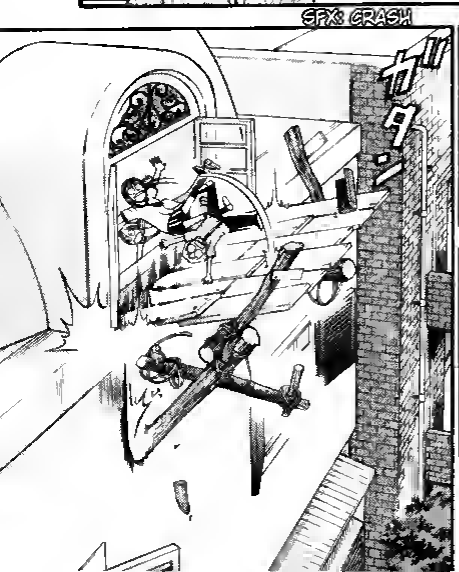

NANASE-SAN.
I WAS REALLY BUSY, SORRY.
COME ON UP!
A LITTLE BOY?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HUH, DON'T YOU KNOW IT AT FIRST GLANCE? IT'S A PLACE TO DRY CLOTHES.
SFX: CREAK CREAK
FOR A CLOTHES LINE?
I BOUGHT A WONDERFUL THING IN AN ELECTRONICS STORE RECENTLY.
A BOX THAT CAN WASH YOUR CLOTHES...
YOU MEAN A WASHING MACHINE?
YES! THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS IN THE MANUAL.

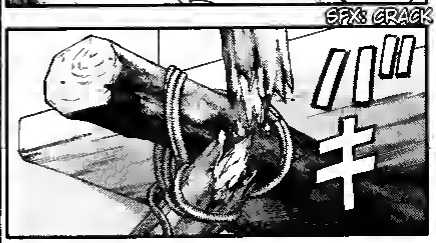
HOW EXACTLY DOES THIS KID LIVE HIS LIFE?
HE ALWAYS USED A DRY CLEANERS?
What?
UNTIL NOW, I WENT TO A DRY CLEANERS, BUT FROM NOW ON, THINGS CAN BE MORE PRACTICAL.
A MOMENT, PLEASE
THAT'S STUPID EXPENSIVE..
EH? YOU WANT TO BRING ME TO A MUSEUM?
HOWEVER, TO BRING HIM TO THE MUSEUM...
AND HE'S A REAL EXPERT IN THESE MATTERS.
YOU'RE REALLY ASKING THAT KID FOR ADVICE?
HE'S WEIRD BUT ALSO REALLY BRIGHT.

I'M COMING! I'M COMING! I WANNA GO TO THE MUSEUM!
OKAY, YOU'RE COMING, BUT STOP JUMPING AROUND HERE!

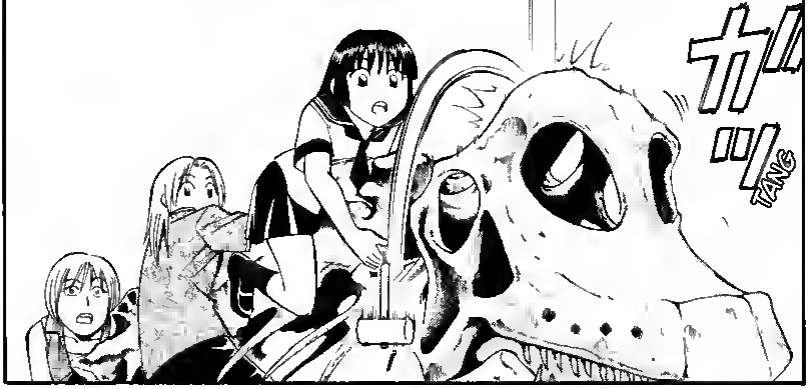
SFX: JUMP
EH? REALLY?
BECAUSE THIS THING YOU CALL A CLOTHES DRYING PLACE IS ACTUALLY A DANGEROUS TOY, YOU KNOW!!

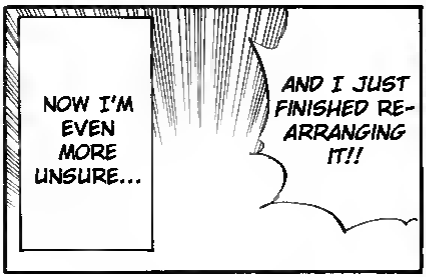

SFX: CRASH

SFX: STOMP
OF COURSE IT IS!


SFX: CRACK

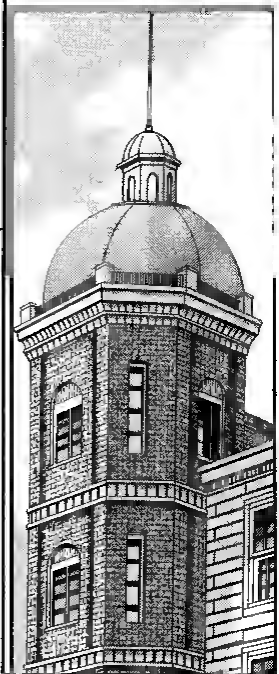
GYAAAAAA!!
SFX: CRASH! BANG!
NANASE-SAN DESTROYED THE DRYING PLACE!!
HOW COME IT'S MY FAULT!?
FAULL
TH..THAT WAS CLOSE...

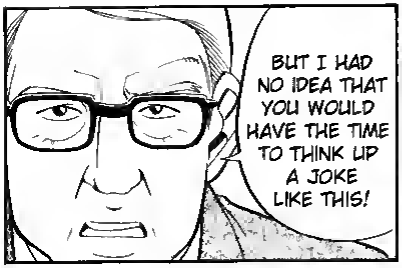

カーン
TANG

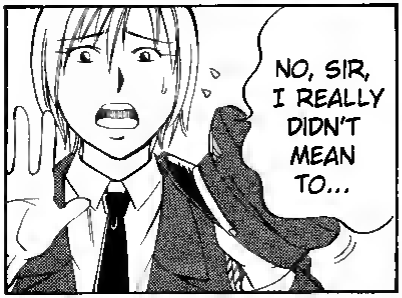

NOW I'M EVEN MORE UNSURE...
AND I JUST FINISHED RE-ARRANGING IT!!

ガス
THUD

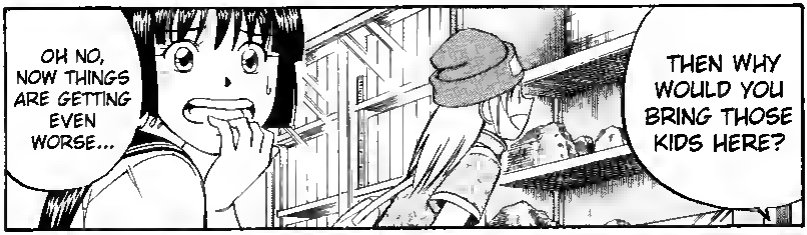
I REALLY HATE THIS KIND OF JOKE.
Y CITY MUSEUM CURATOR NAGASAKI TAGEHIKO




BUT I HAD NO IDEA THAT YOU WOULD HAVE THE TIME TO THINK UP A JOKE LIKE THIS!

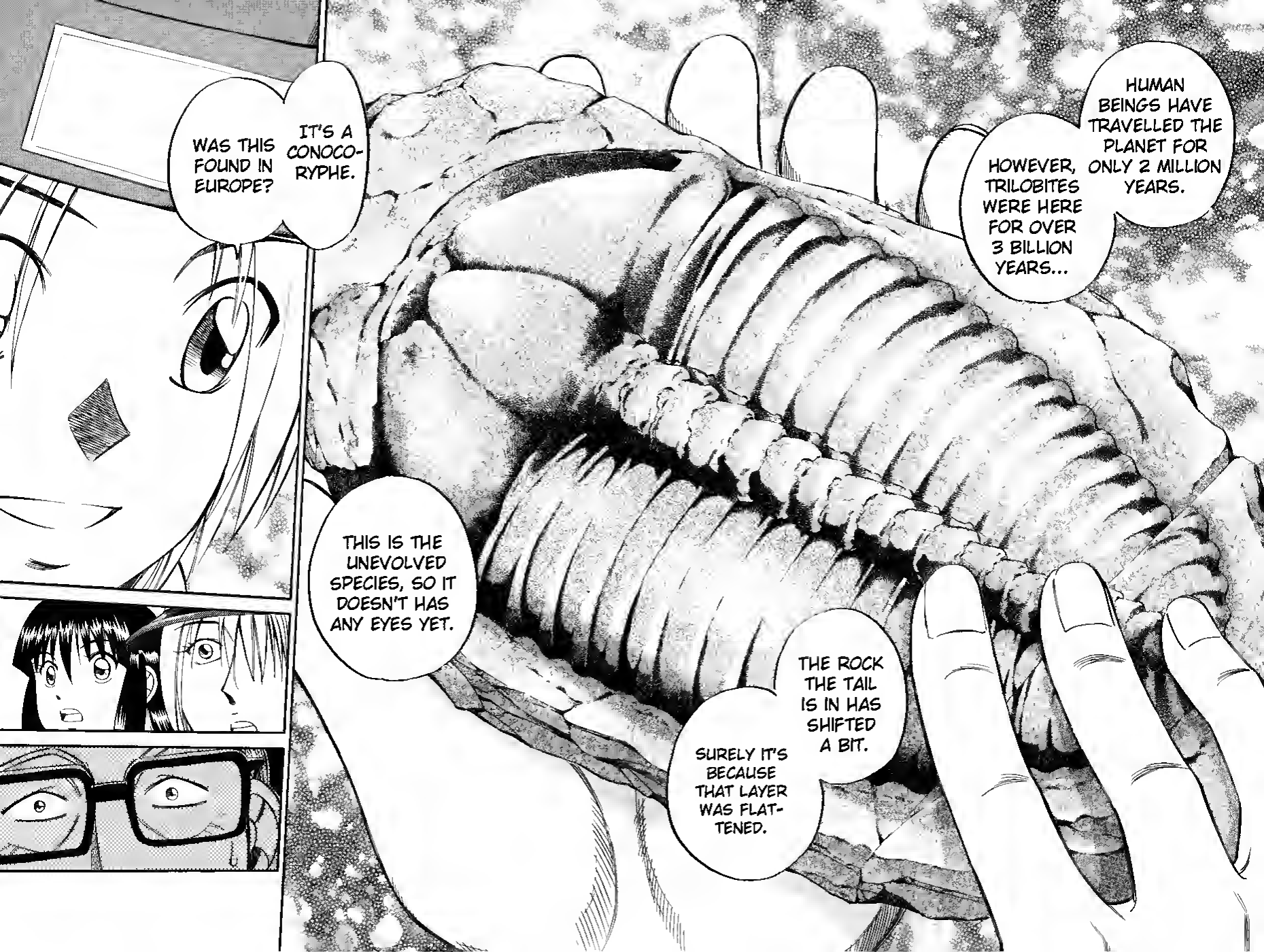

NO, SIR, I REALLY DIDN'T MEAN TO...

I WAS SERIOUS WHEN I SAID THAT I WANTED TO GET THIS GHOST THING OVER WITH.
AND I WAS GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HELP AS WELL.

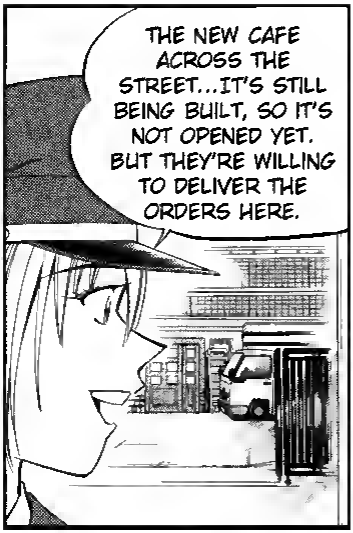

OH NO, NOW THINGS ARE GETTING EVEN WORSE...
THEN WHY WOULD YOU BRING THOSE KIDS HERE?

JUST QUICKLY GET THEM TO...
Y...YES SIR..
YOU MUST BE ABLE TO SEPARATE WORK FROM PLAY!

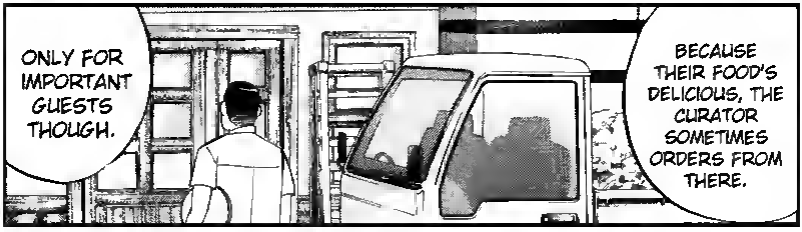
THIS GORGONOPS FOSSIL, IT'S STILL IN VERY EXCELLENT CONDITION.
YES!
ARE YOU INTER-ESTED, KID?
Y... YES.
CAN I TOUCH IT?
THIS IS A TRILO-BITE,
FROM THE CAMBRIAN PERIOD.

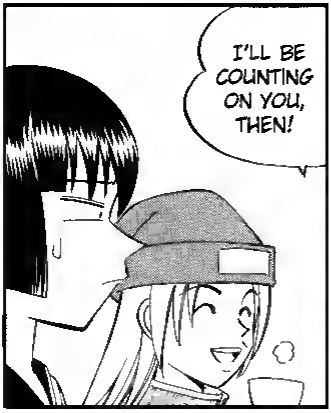

IT'S A CONOCO-RYPHE.
WAS THIS FOUND IN EUROPE?
HUMAN BEINGS HAVE TRAVELLED THE PLANET FOR ONLY 2 MILLION YEARS.
HOWEVER, TRILOBITES WERE HERE FOR OVER 3 BILLION YEARS...
THIS IS THE UNEVOLVED SPECIES, SO IT DOESN'T HAS ANY EYES YET.
THE ROCK THE TAIL IS IN HAS SHIFTED A BIT.
SURELY IT'S BECAUSE THAT LAYER WAS FLAT-TENED.

I HAVE A MUSEUM TOO!
YOU REALLY KNOWS A LOT OF THINGS.
EVER SINCE MY DADS GAVE ME THESE.
PLEASE ENJOY.


THE NEW CAFE ACROSS THE STREET...IT'S STILL BEING BUILT, SO IT'S NOT OPENED YET. BUT THEY'RE WILLING TO DELIVER THE ORDERS HERE.

UM..
THE CURATOR IS THE ONE WHO ORDERED IT.

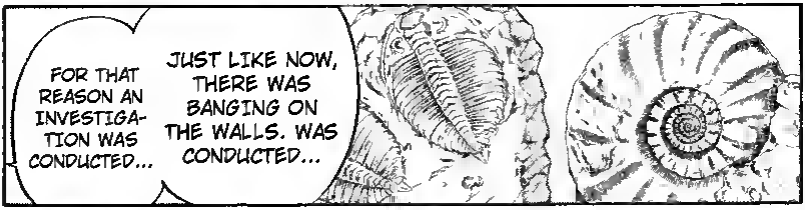

ONLY FOR IMPORTANT GUESTS THOUGH.
BECAUSE THEIR FOOD'S DELICIOUS, THE CURATOR SOMETIMES ORDERS FROM THERE.

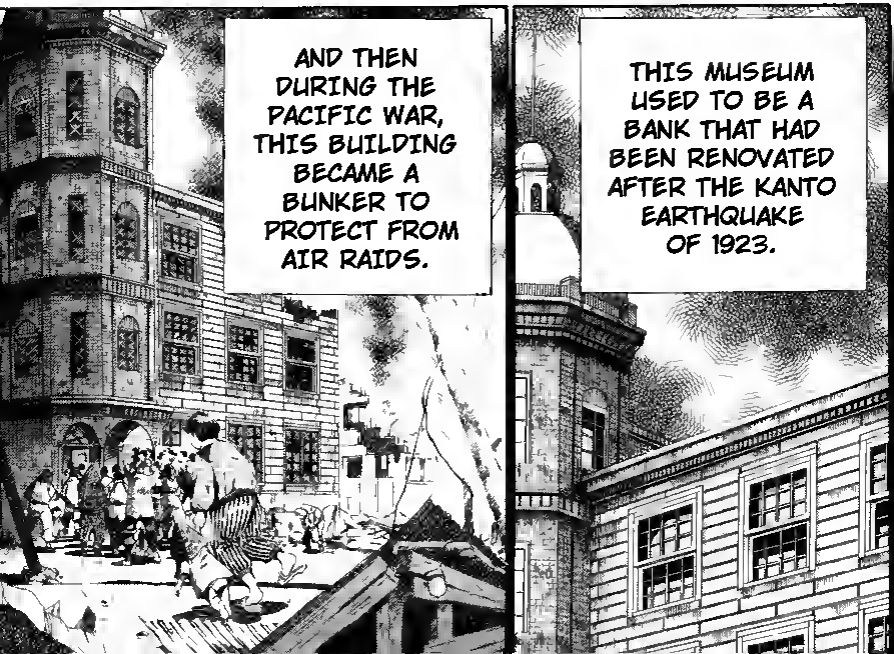

I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU, THEN!

YOU TRULY ARE AN AMAZING KID.
THANK GOODNESS, I WAS JUST ABOUT TO BE FIRED, BUT IT TURNS OUT THAT THE CURATOR IS REALLY IMPRESSED!
警備

IT FEELS LIKE I'M STANDING IN A GRAVE...
WHO KNOWS ?
WHAT ARE THOSE RINGS, EXACTLY?
SIGN: ROUTE
順路
IS THIS THE RUMORED HAUNTED ROOM?
YES.

EHH?
ACTUALLY, THIS SAME RUCKUS HAPPENED 30 YEARS AGO.

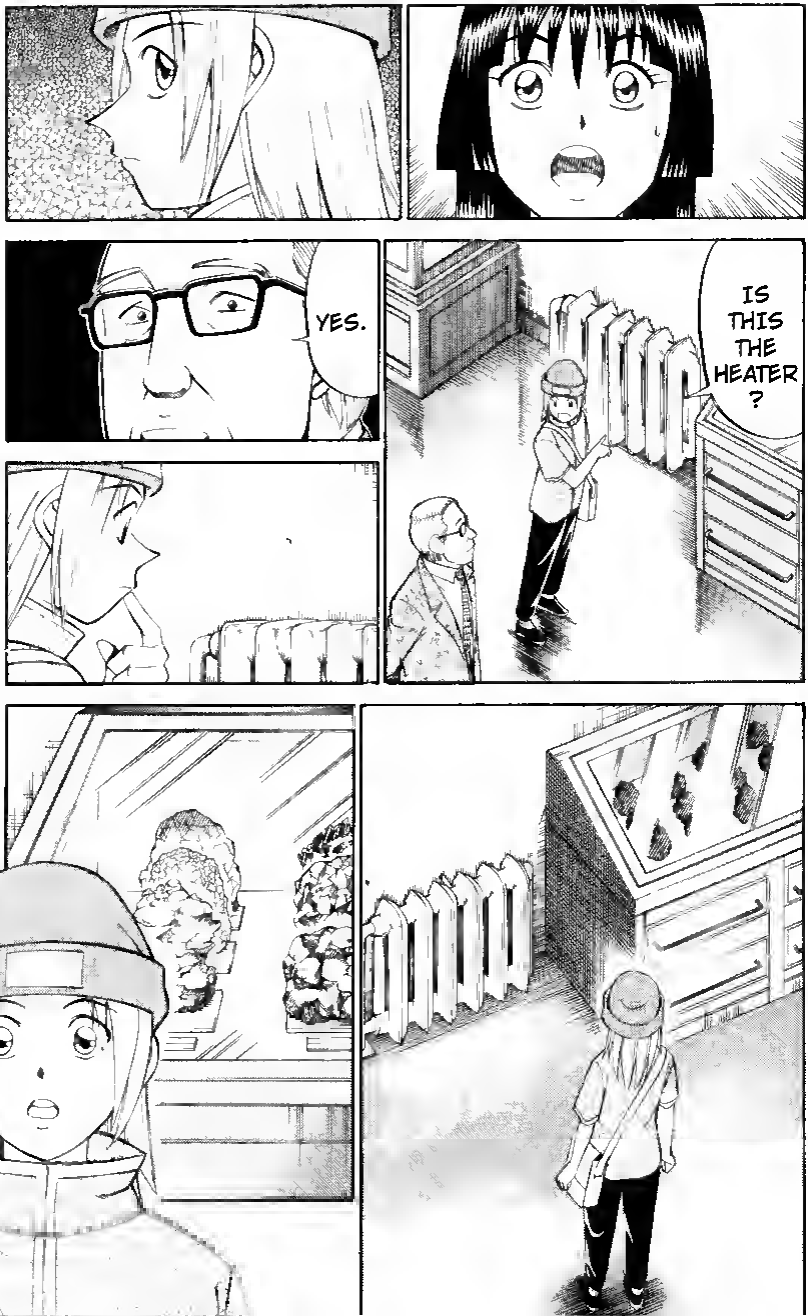

FOR THAT REASON AN INVESTIGATION WAS CONDUCTED...
JUST LIKE NOW, THERE WAS BANGING ON THE WALLS. WAS CONDUCTED...


AND THEN DURING THE PACIFIC WAR, THIS BUILDING BECAME A BUNKER TO PROTECT FROM AIR RAIDS.
THIS MUSEUM USED TO BE A BANK THAT HAD BEEN RENOVATED AFTER THE KANTO EARTHQUAKE OF 1923.

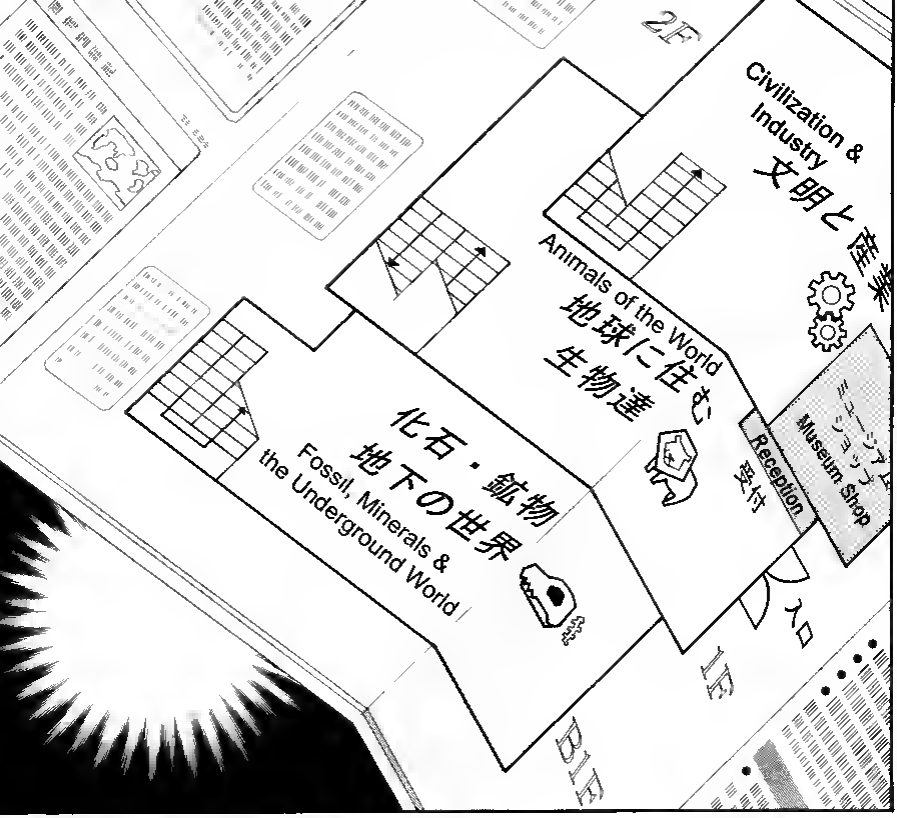
PEOPLE CAME IN TO WAIT FOR THE AIR RAIDS TO END.
HOWEVER THE PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T MAKE IT INSIDE...
LET US IN!
OPEN IT!
BAM
BAM
BAM
OPEN UP!
PLEASE OPEN IT!
AFTER THE AIR RAID WAS OVER, THOSE WHO SURVIVED
WERE GREETED BY A PANORAMA OF HELL

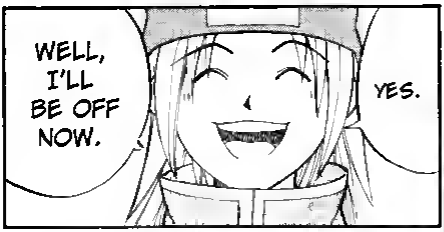
THE RUMOR IS THAT THE GHOSTS OF THOSE WHO DIED BACK THEN CONTINUE TO BANG ON THE WALLS...
A SILK MERCHANT KEPT A HUGE AMOUNT OF MONEY HERE.
ANOTHER RUMOR SAYS THAT WHEN THE BUILDING WAS STILL A BANK,
HOWEVER, THE EARTH-QUAKE DESTROYED EVERYTHING.
THE MONEY WAS IN A SPECIAL SAFE, LOCATED IN A SMALL ROOM.
THEY SAY IT'S THE GHOST OF THE MERCHANT WHO BANGS THE WALL, DEMANDING HIS MONEY BACK...

HOWEVER, AT THE END OF THE INVESTIGATION, A SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION CAME UP.
THIS BUILDING USES A STEAM HEATING SYSTEM.
THE WATER FLOWING INSIDE THE PIPES, AFFECTED BY PRESSURE, CAUSES VIBRATIONS AND MAKES LOUD SOUNDS.
IN THAT CASE, IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE CAUSE THIS TIME IS ALSO...
NO..
FOR A LONG TIME, UNTIL NOW...
IN OTHER WORDS, THE CAUSE IS THE WATER HAMMER PHENOMENON.
THE HEATER'S BEEN TURNED OFF EVERY NIGHT...


YES.
IS THIS THE HEATER ?

ピョン
ピョン
SFX: JUMP
?
DO YOU HAVE A MAP OF THE BUILDING?
?
THERE'S ONLY THIS PAMPHLET.
IT SEEMS LIKE HE FOUND SOMETHING?


2F
Civilization &
Industry
文明と産業
Animals of the World
地球に住む
生物達
Reception
受付
Museum Shop
ミュージアム
ショップ
化石・鉱物
地下の世界
Fossil, Minerals &
the Underground World
入口
1F
B1F


WELL, I'LL BE OFF NOW.
YES.

IS THERE ANYTHING INTERESTING?

DON'T YOU HAVE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS AFTER HEARING SUCH A THOROUGH EXPLANATION?
WAIT, SHINRA!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
IF SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENS, JUST CALL ME.
FOR NOW, IT SEEMS THAT THERE'S NOTHING TO BE DONE.
SO HE'S REALLY JUST A BRAT...
I EVEN GOT INVITED TO A MUSEUM, TOO.
TODAY'S MY LUCKY DAY.
AH!
I FOUND SOMETHING NICE!

AT THAT TIME, I HEARD ABOUT THE LEGEND OF THE "THREE RINGS".
AH... SORRY, THAT KID IS...
IN MY YOUTH, I STUDIED IN ENGLAND FOR A WHILE.
AS A RING BEARER, THEY ALSO RECEIVED THE TITLE OF "KNIGHT", AND IT CAN ONLY BE PASSED TO THE NEXT GENERATION BY "THE THREE SAGES" TO THEIR BEST STUDENT.
QUEEN CHARLOTTE CHOSE 3 CURATORS WHO WERE REGARDED TO BE THE BEST IN THEIR SUBJECTS AND GRANTED THEM A RING AS A SIGN OF A "KNOWLEDGE KEEPER".
IN THE 19TH CENTURY, WHEN THE BRITISH MUSEUM STARTED SERIOUS RESEARCH CONCERNING THEIR COLLEC-TION OF ARTIFACTS,

C
M
B
THOSE RINGS CAME FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT'S "THE THREE WISE MEN FROM THE EAST".
CASPAR, MELCHIOR AND BALTHAZAR'S INITIALS, CMB, ARE ETCHED ON THEM.

THE THEORY BEING THAT THE LETTERS ARE THE ABBREVIATION OF A PRAYER.

Christus
Mansionem
Benedicat

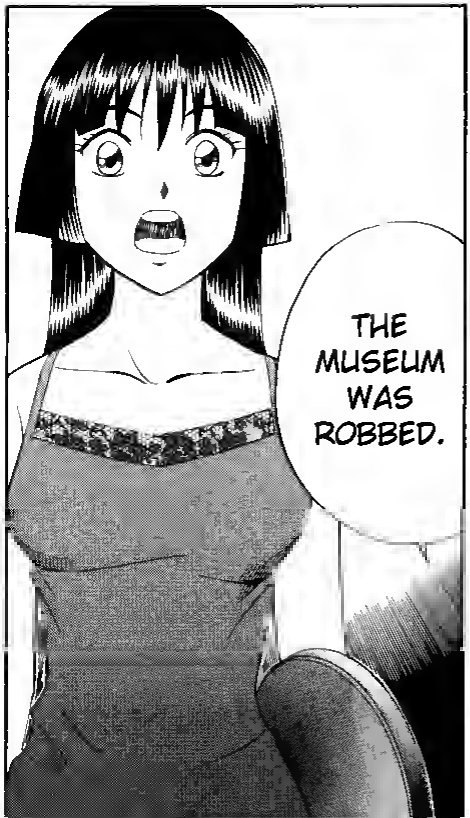
OR CMB COULD STAND FOR THE LATIN, "CHRISTUS MANSIONEM BENEDICAT".

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
ㄱㄱㄱ
THIS MISTAKE MUST NEVER BE REPEATED.
I'M ASHAMED THAT I LET MYSELF THINK THAT.
.....
SIGN: AIKIDO DOJO
合気道道場
ONE WEEK AFTERWARD

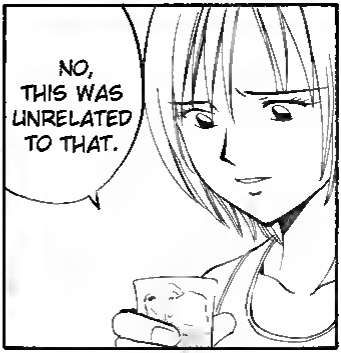
SENSEI.
WHY IS IT THAT TACHIBANA-SAN SEEMS TO BE MISSING THESE PAST FEW DAYS?
SHE CALLED ME AND SAID THAT SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO PRACTICE FOR A WHILE.
IT SEEMS THAT SHE WAS QUESTIONED BY THE POLICE.
TACHIBANA-SAN WAS QUESTIONED BY THE POLICE?

*THIS IS BAD!
ヤバイ
BECAUSE I BROUGHT THAT GUY THERE...
I WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON?
MAYBE I MADE THINGS WORSE?
PUSH
AH, WELCOME.
MAY I BOTHER YOU FOR A BIT?
DAD! TAKE MY POST!

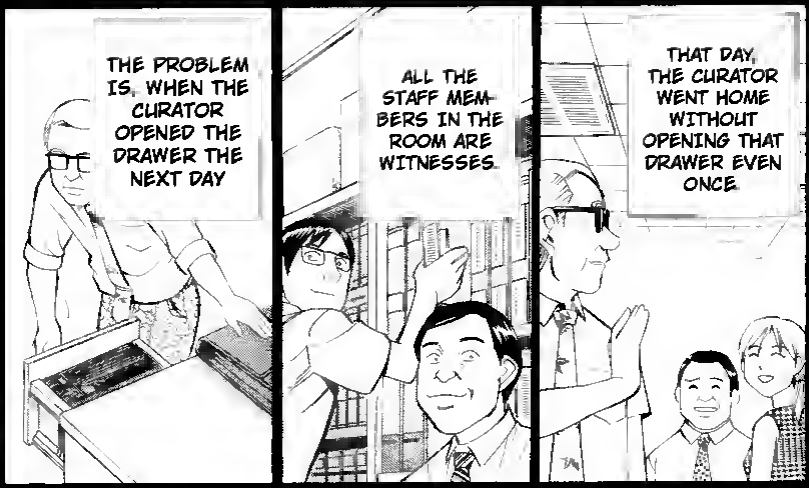
WHEN I CALLED THE DOJO, SENSEI SAID THAT YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME.
SO, I THOUGHT I WOULD JUST COME HERE TO TALK WITH YOU...

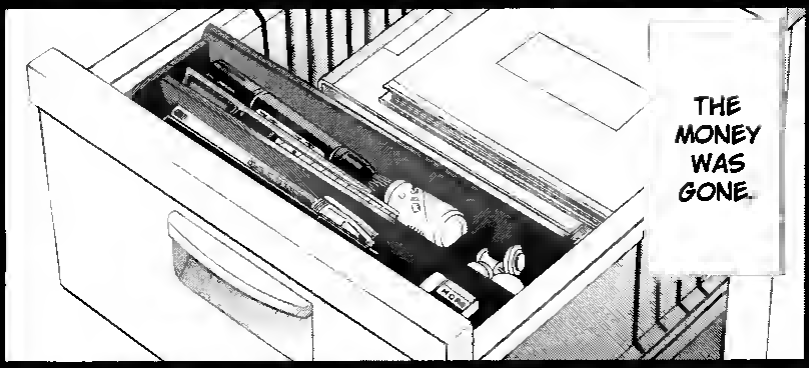

THE MUSEUM WAS ROBBED.

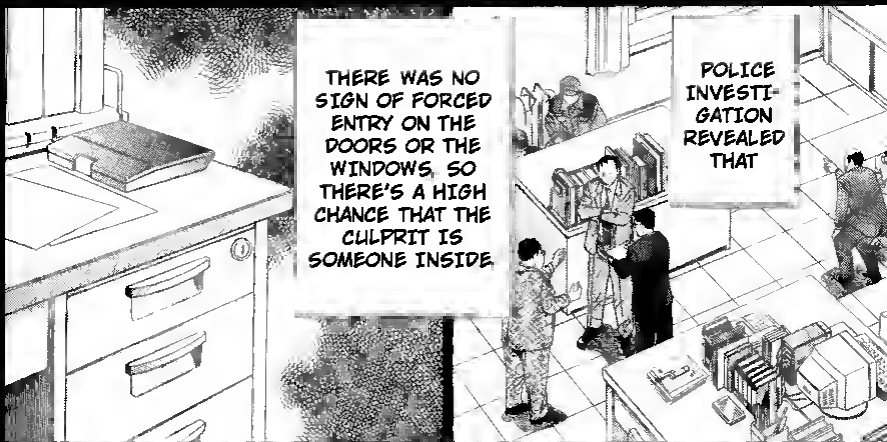
DID I COMPLI-CATE THE PROBLEM?


NO, THIS WAS UNRELATED TO THAT.

Y CITY MUSEUM ACCOUNTANT AKIO SHIMOZEKI
AFTER THE MUSEUM IS CLOSED, THAT DAY'S EARNINGS ARE CALCULATED THE SAME DAY.
CLICK
LOCKS IT,
AND THEN GIVES THE KEY TO THE CURATOR.
MR. SHIMOZEKI, THE MUSEUM ACCOUNTANT PUTS THE MONEY BACK IN THE HEAD CURATOR'S DRAWER,
THE MONEY WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE BANK ON THE WEEKEND AND USUALLY REMAINS UNTOUCHED IN THE DRAWER.

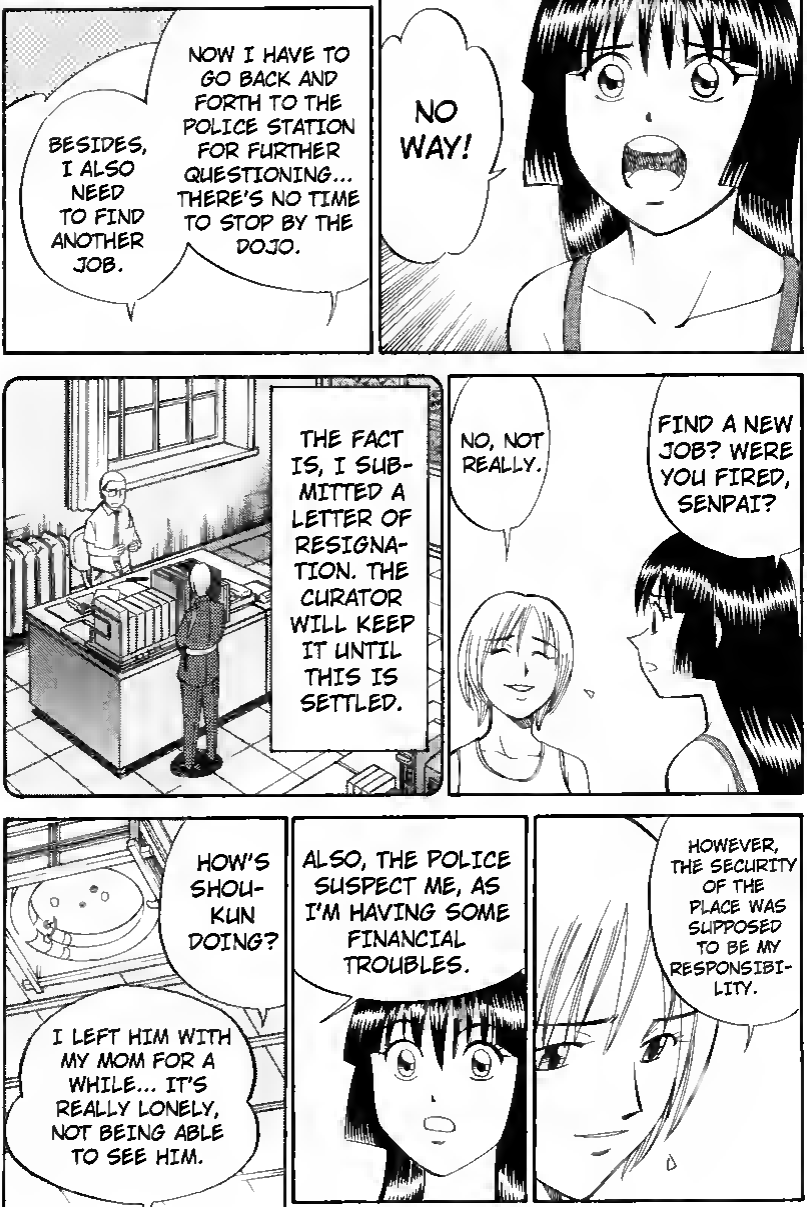

THE PROBLEM IS, WHEN THE CURATOR OPENED THE DRAWER THE NEXT DAY
ALL THE STAFF MEMBERS IN THE ROOM ARE WITNESSES.
THAT DAY, THE CURATOR WENT HOME WITHOUT OPENING THAT DRAWER EVEN ONCE.


THE MONEY WAS GONE.


THERE WAS NO SIGN OF FORCED ENTRY ON THE DOORS OR THE WINDOWS, SO THERE'S A HIGH CHANCE THAT THE CULPRIT IS SOMEONE INSIDE.
POLICE INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT

ONLY ONE PERSON CAME INSIDE THE OFFICE AFTER I LOCKED THE DOOR.
DID ANYONE COME IN AFTER THE MUSEUM WAS CLOSED?
THE ACCOUNTANT, MR. SHIMOZEKI
I LEFT MY CELL PHONE!
TWO DAYS AFTER THAT, AN ENVELOPE WAS SENT TO THE MUSEUM
IT WASN'T ME!
THE POLICE QUESTIONED HIM.
GUESS WHAT WAS INSIDE!

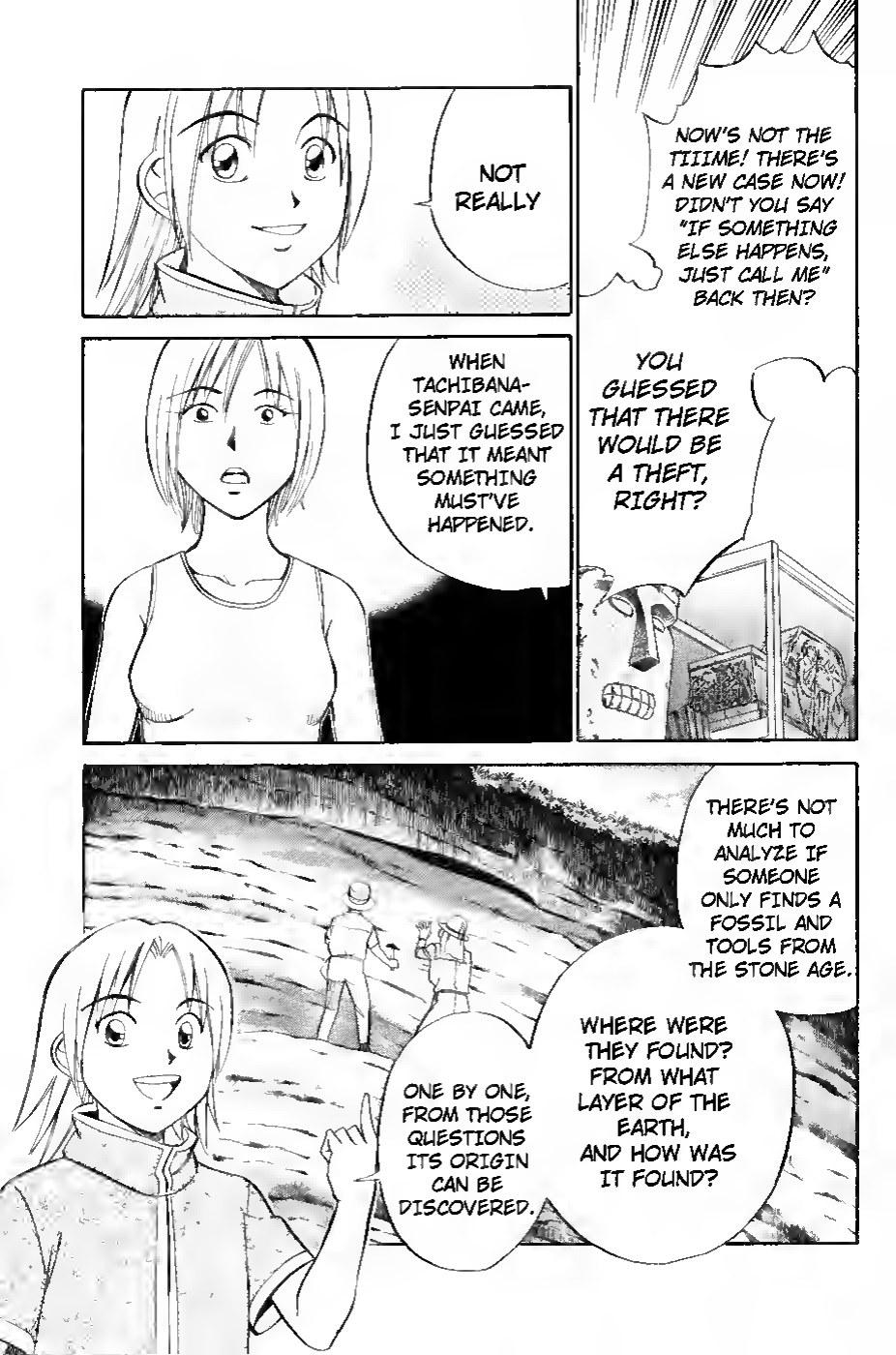
IT WAS THE STOLEN MONEY.
THE STAMP WAS MARKED JUST A DAY BEFORE.
ON THAT DAY, MR. SHIMOZEKI WAS BEING QUESTIONED BY THE POLICE.
SUSPICIONS WERE THEN DIRECTED TOWARDS THE CURATOR WHO HOLDS THE KEY
SO...
SO MR. SHIMOZEKI COULDN'T BE THE CULPRIT.
AND TOWARDS ME, WHO WAS AT THE CRIME SCENE THAT DAY.

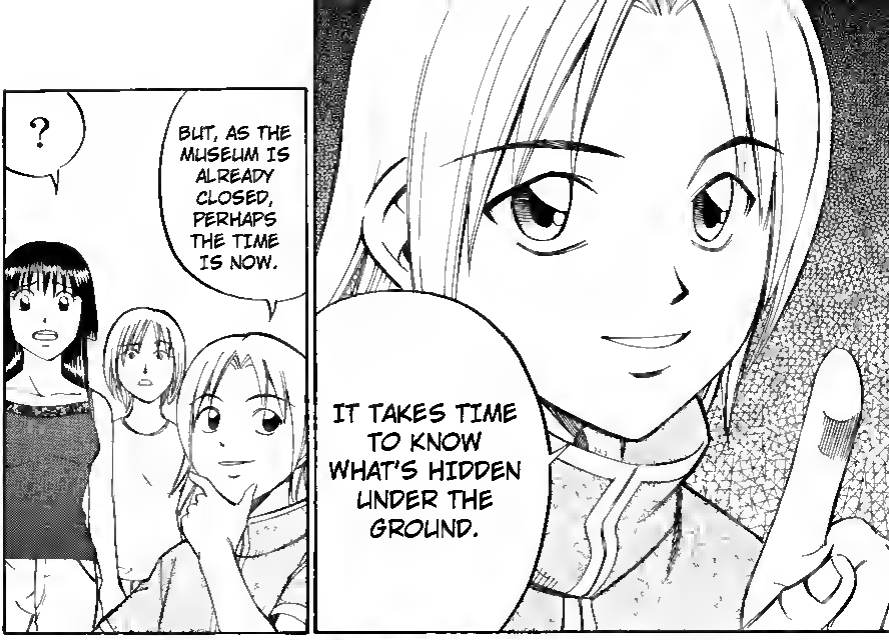

NO WAY!
NOW I HAVE TO GO BACK AND FORTH TO THE POLICE STATION FOR FURTHER QUESTIONING... THERE'S NO TIME TO STOP BY THE DOJO.
BESIDES, I ALSO NEED TO FIND ANOTHER JOB.
FIND A NEW JOB? WERE YOU FIRED, SENPAI?
NO, NOT REALLY.
THE FACT IS, I SUBMITTED A LETTER OF RESIGNATION. THE CURATOR WILL KEEP IT UNTIL THIS IS SETTLED.
HOW'S SHOU-KUN DOING?
I LEFT HIM WITH MY MOM FOR A WHILE... IT'S REALLY LONELY, NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE HIM.
ALSO, THE POLICE SUSPECT ME, AS I'M HAVING SOME FINANCIAL TROUBLES.
HOWEVER, THE SECURITY OF THE PLACE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE MY RESPONSIBILITY.

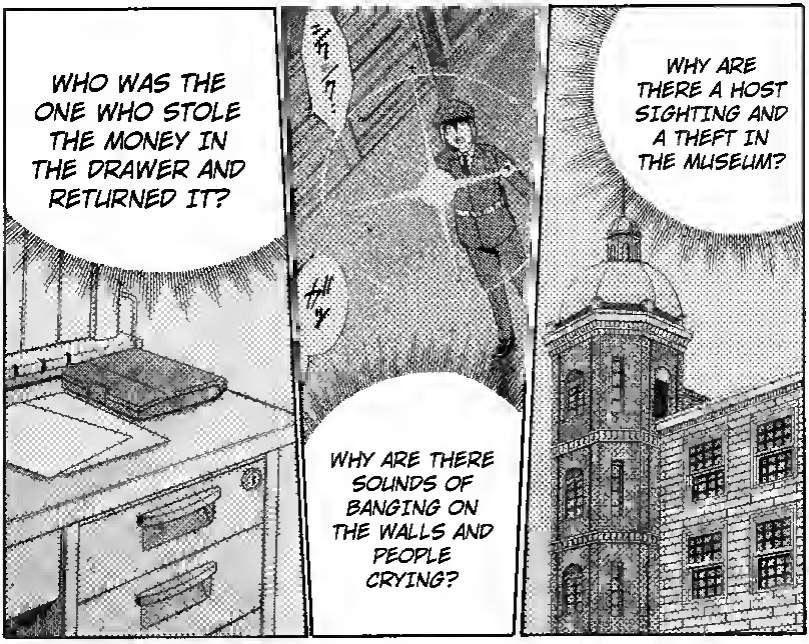
I WAS TROUBLING A LOT OF PEOPLE...
HOW PATHETIC.
THE MUSEUM IS ALSO SHUT DOWN UNTIL THE CASE IS SOLVED.
FIRST GHOSTS, NOW THEFT...
IT'S JUST AWFUL.
IN THIS WORLD, THE TROUBLES COME ONE AFTER ANOTHER, DON'T THEY?
ONE AFTER ANOTHER... TROUBLES COME...
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING
YOU EVEN GOT WORRIED.

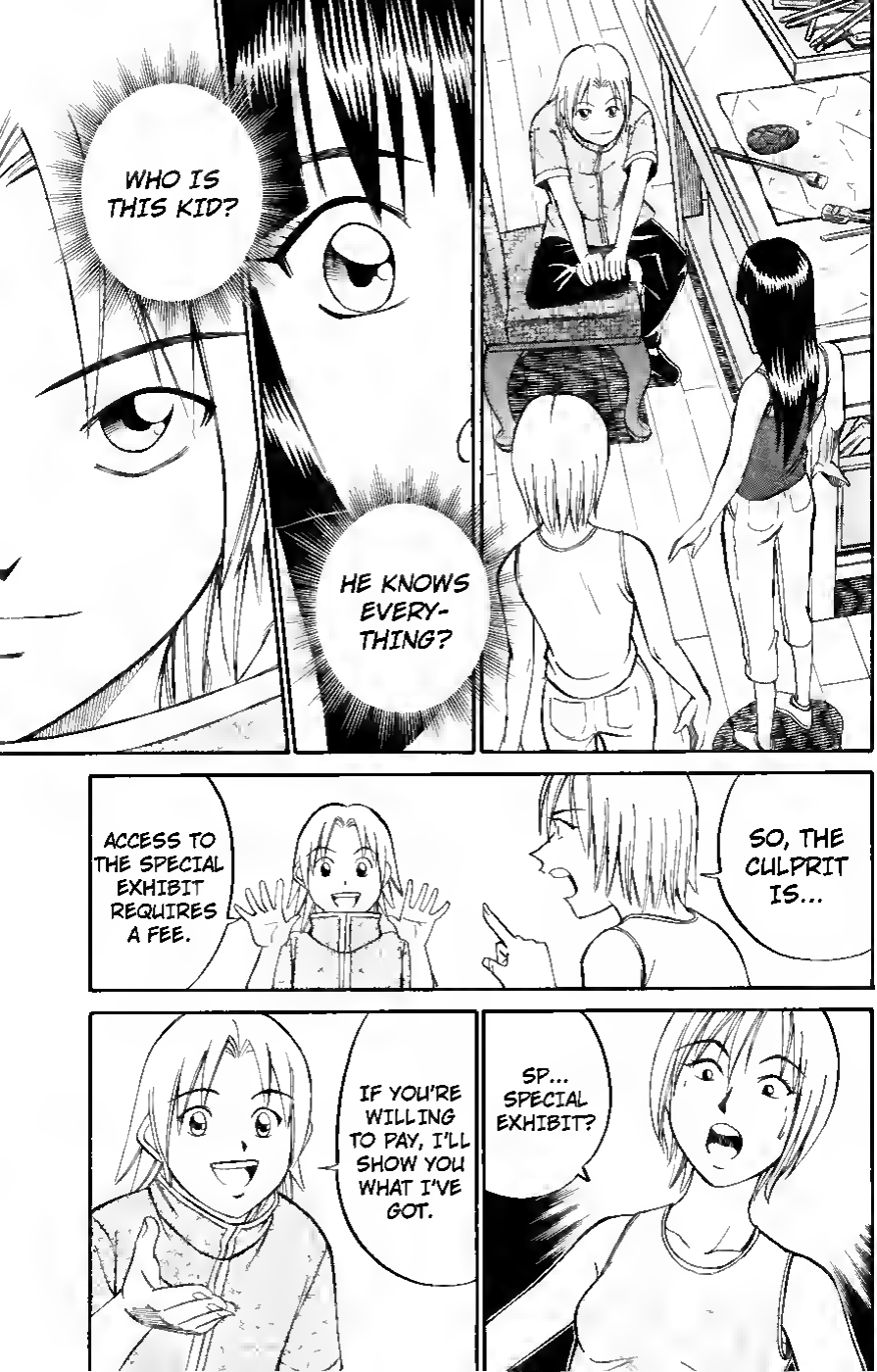
IF SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENS, JUST CALL ME.
WAIT A MINUTE, SENPAI!
HE REALLY DOES KNOW SOMETHING!

IS THAT THE ROCK YOU PICKED UP THE OTHER DAY?
IT'S NOT JUST ANY STONE, REALLY.
WHY ARE YOU SO SERIOUS... THAT'S JUST A STONE.
WHERE, WHERE?
LOOK, THERE ARE SOME FRICTION MARKS, SEE?
THIS IS A STONE UTENSIL. TO BE PRECISE, IT'S A HAND AXE FROM THE STONE AGES. FOR NOW, IT SEEMS THAT THERE'S NOTHING MORE THAT CAN BE DONE.

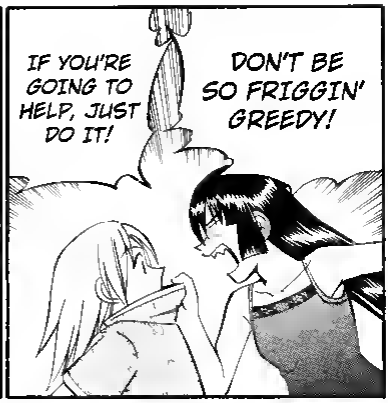

NOW'S NOT THE TIIIME! THERE'S A NEW CASE NOW! DIDN'T YOU SAY "IF SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENS, JUST CALL ME" BACK THEN?
NOT REALLY
YOU GUESSED THAT THERE WOULD BE A THEFT, RIGHT?
WHEN TACHIBANA-SENPAI CAME, I JUST GUESSED THAT IT MEANT SOMETHING MUST'VE HAPPENED.
THERE'S NOT MUCH TO ANALYZE IF SOMEONE ONLY FINDS A FOSSIL AND TOOLS FROM THE STONE AGE.
WHERE WERE THEY FOUND? FROM WHAT LAYER OF THE EARTH, AND HOW WAS IT FOUND?
ONE BY ONE, FROM THOSE QUESTIONS ITS ORIGIN CAN BE DISCOVERED.


?
BUT, AS THE MUSEUM IS ALREADY CLOSED, PERHAPS THE TIME IS NOW.
IT TAKES TIME TO KNOW WHAT'S HIDDEN UNDER THE GROUND.


WHO WAS THE ONE WHO STOLE THE MONEY IN THE DRAWER AND RETURNED IT?
WHY ARE THERE SOUNDS OF BANGING ON THE WALLS AND PEOPLE CRYING?
WHY ARE THERE A HOST SIGHTING AND A THEFT IN THE MUSEUM?

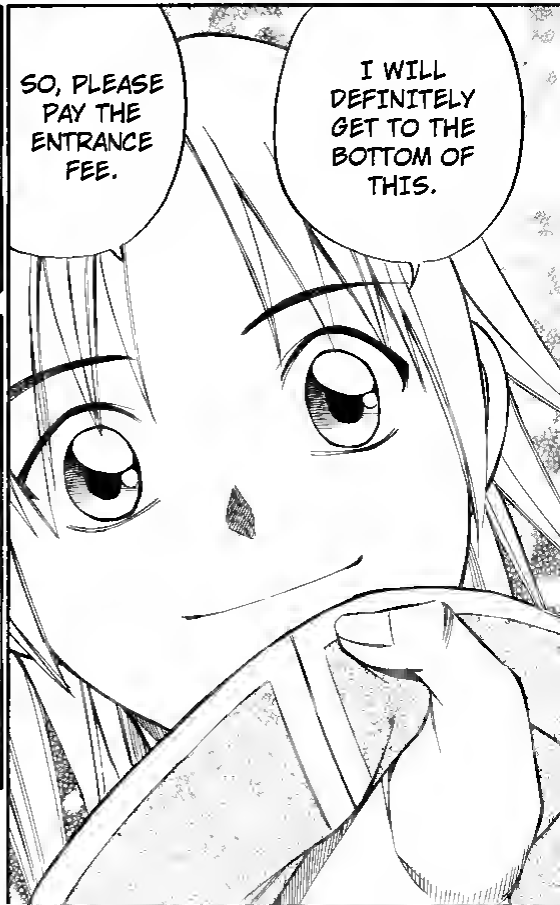

WHO IS THIS KID?
HE KNOWS EVERY-THING?
SO, THE CULPRIT IS...
ACCESS TO THE SPECIAL EXHIBIT REQUIRES A FEE.
SP... SPECIAL EXHIBIT?
IF YOU'RE WILLING TO PAY, I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I'VE GOT.

IT'S STRANGE IF A HUMAN USES THEIR "WEAPON" FOR FREE.
A BIRD'S WINGS AND A LION'S CLAWS ARE THEIR WEAPONS FOR SURVIVAL.


IF YOU'RE GOING TO HELP, JUST DO IT!
DON'T BE SO FRIGGIN' GREEDY!

.....

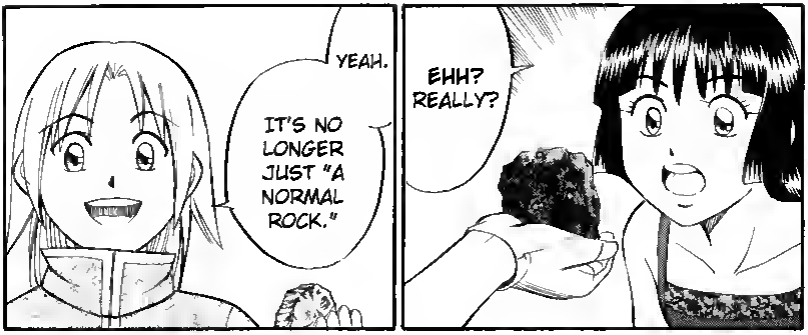
SO, HOW MUCH MUST I PAY?
This wimpy kid
I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF MONEY...


SO, PLEASE PAY THE ENTRANCE FEE.
I WILL DEFINITELY GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.

I DON'T NEED ANY MONEY.
JUST GIVE ME PART OF WHAT WE FIND AT THE END OF THE CASE.
SOMETHING THAT WE'LL FIND?
I CAN'T PROMISE WHAT'S NOT SURE...
IF YOU CAN'T, THEN I'VE GOT NOTHING TO SAY.
OKAY! I'LL HOLD YOU TO YOUR WORDS.
THERE ARE NO MORE PROBLEMS NOW, RIGHT!?

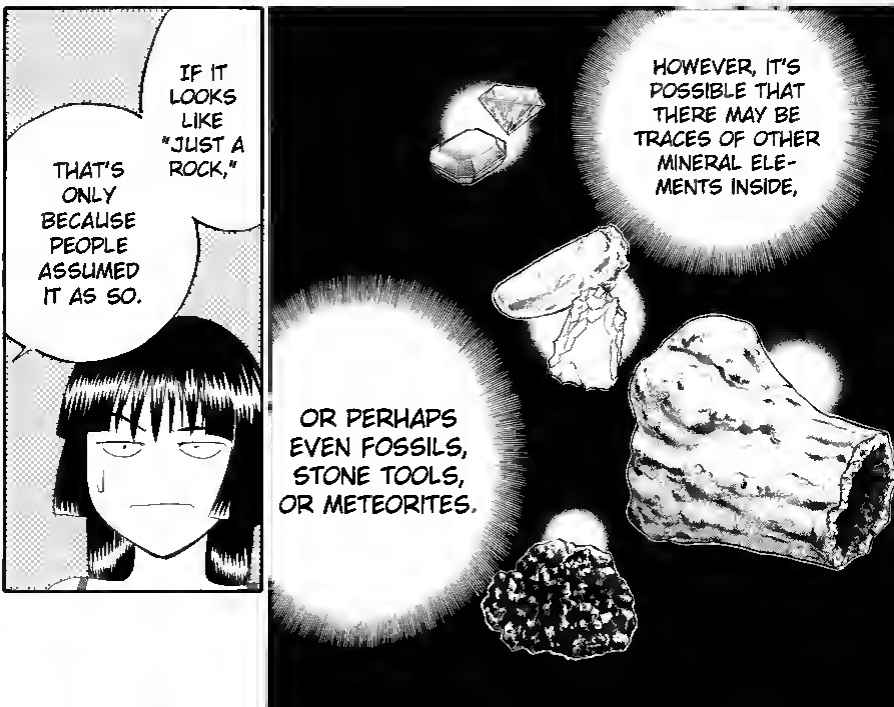
SO, WE HAVE OURSELVES A DEAL.
WELCOME TO MY WUNDERKAMMER.

FRAGILE
FRAGILE
FIRST OF ALL, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS
IF SO, THEN THIS ONE IS...?
ISN'T THAT JUST A REGULAR STONE?
WHILE WITHIN THIS ONE THERE ARE TRACES OF DIAMOND.
ACTUALLY, THIS STONE CONTAINS TRACES OF GOLD,
THAT'S JUST ANOTHER NORMAL STONE, RIGHT?



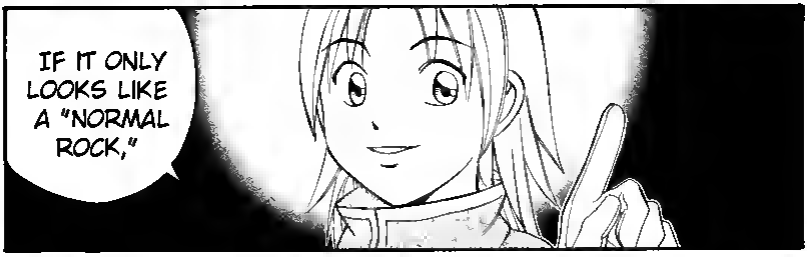
A ROCK SCATTERED ON THE ROAD OR FOUND AT AN EXCAVATION...

WILL USUALLY JUST BE CALLED A "ROCK."

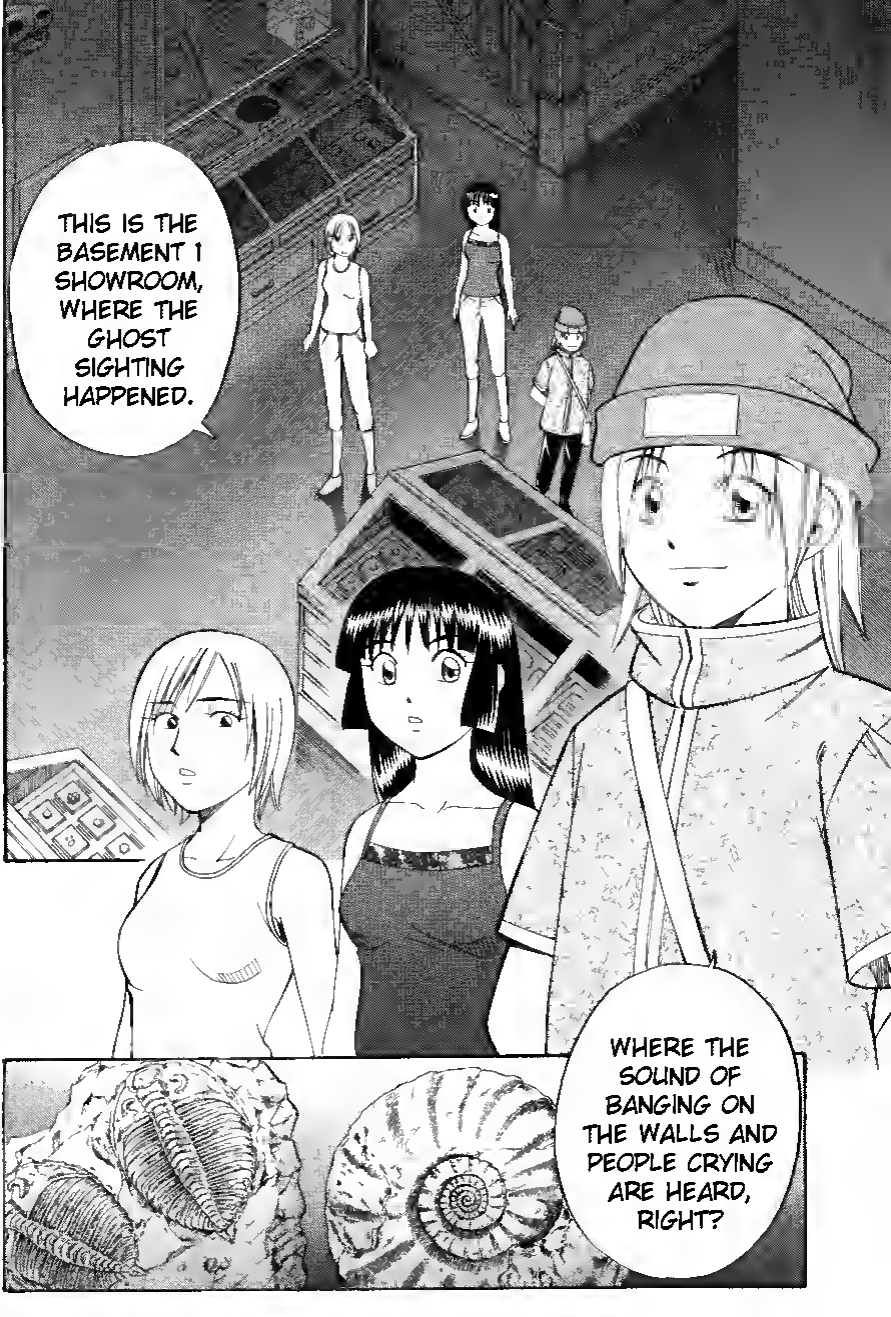

IF IT LOOKS LIKE "JUST A ROCK,"
THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE PEOPLE ASSUMED IT AS SO.
HOWEVER, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THERE MAY BE TRACES OF OTHER MINERAL ELEMENTS INSIDE,
OR PERHAPS EVEN FOSSILS, STONE TOOLS, OR METEORITES.

?

NOW, NANASE-SENPAI.
PLEASE BRING THIS.


IF IT ONLY LOOKS LIKE A "NORMAL ROCK,"

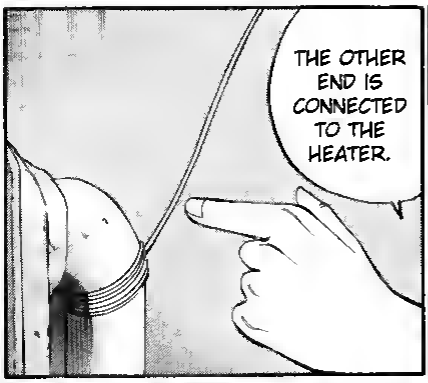
THEN WE SHOULD SMASH IT AND SEE FOR OURSELVES WHAT'S INSIDE.

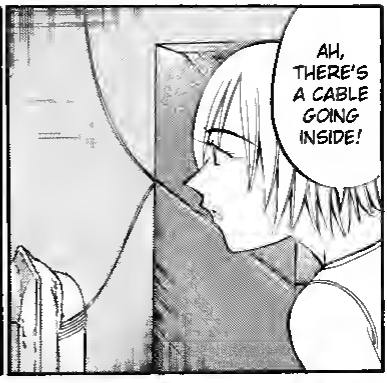

THIS IS THE BASEMENT 1 SHOWROOM, WHERE THE GHOST SIGHTING HAPPENED.
WHERE THE SOUND OF BANGING ON THE WALLS AND PEOPLE CRYING ARE HEARD, RIGHT?

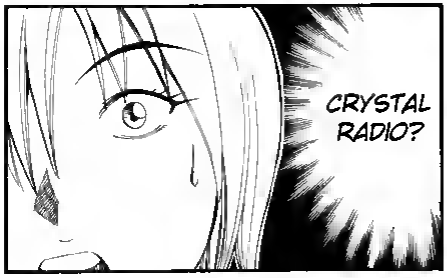
THIS.
DO YOU REMEMBER IT?
AND THEN, AT THAT TIME, TACHIBANA-SENPAI SAW SOMETHING.
THAT'S RIGHT! I SAW THAT THEN, TOO... EVEN THOUGH THE ELECTRICITY WAS SUPPOSED TO BE TURNED OFF ALREADY!
THE BLINKING NEON LIGHTS.
FLIK
NEON LIGHTS WILL BLINK IF THERE'S A LARGE AMOUNT OF ELECTRO-MAGNETIC ENERGY NEARBY.
THAT'S THE EFFECT OF AN ELECTRO-MAGNETIC WAVE.

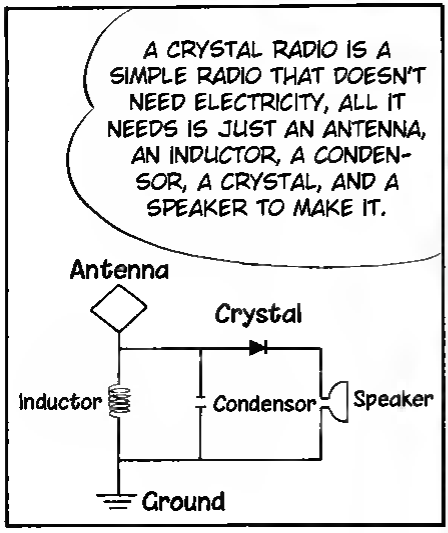
NEXT, WE ADJUST THE ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVE TO SYNC WITH THE VOICES.
A RADIO?
NOW IMAGINE THAT THERE'S A RADIO NEARBY.
HU
HU
MOAN
HU
hu
MOAN
HU
HU
THIS IS THE GHOST SOUND THAT I HEARD!
MOAN
HU
HU
WHAT THE?

IN THIS ROOM, THERE'S A TRANSMITTING DEVICE.
IN OTHER WORDS, A "RADIO."
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
IN FRONT OF YOU.
WHERE?
EH?
THIS ONE...?
WHERE MINERALS AND STONES ARE PUT ON DISPLAY.
LOOK CAREFULLY.

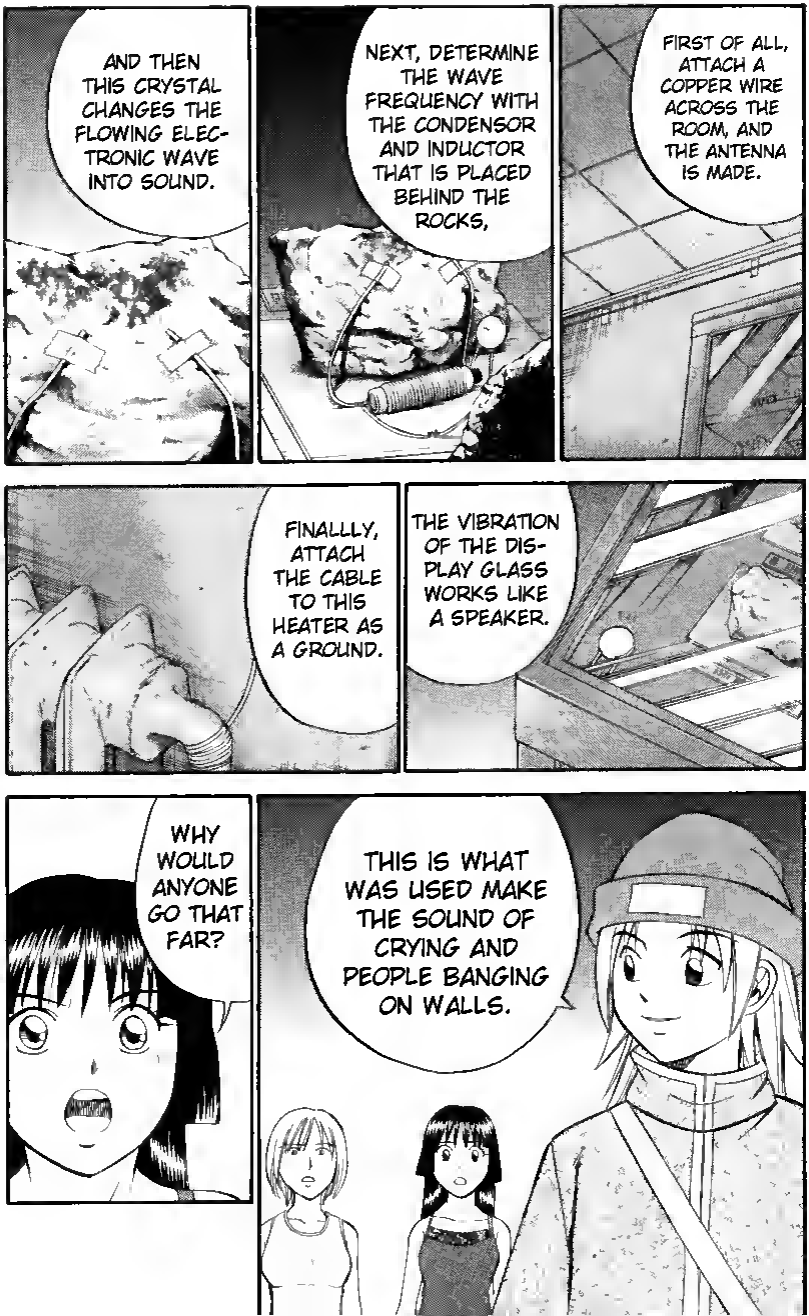

THE OTHER END IS CONNECTED TO THE HEATER.


AH, THERE'S A CABLE GOING INSIDE!

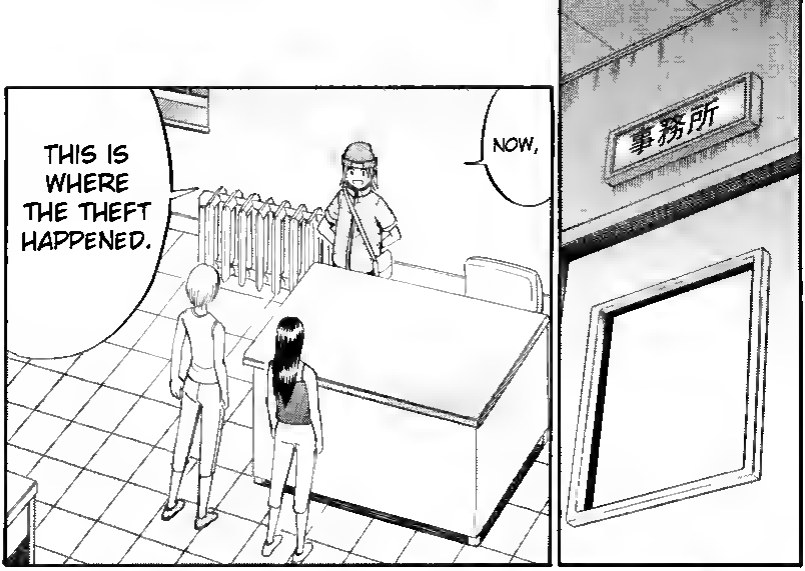

CRYSTAL RADIO?

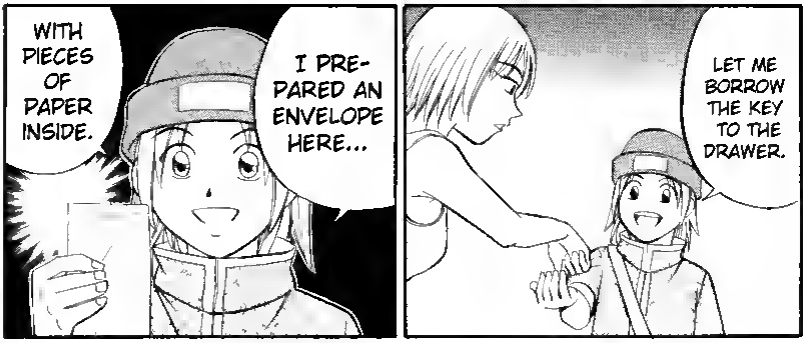

A CRYSTAL RADIO IS A SIMPLE RADIO THAT DOESN'T NEED ELECTRICITY, ALL IT NEEDS IS JUST AN ANTENNA, AN INDUCTOR, A CONDENSOR, A CRYSTAL, AND A SPEAKER TO MAKE IT.
Antenna
Crystal
Inductor
Condensor
Speaker
Ground

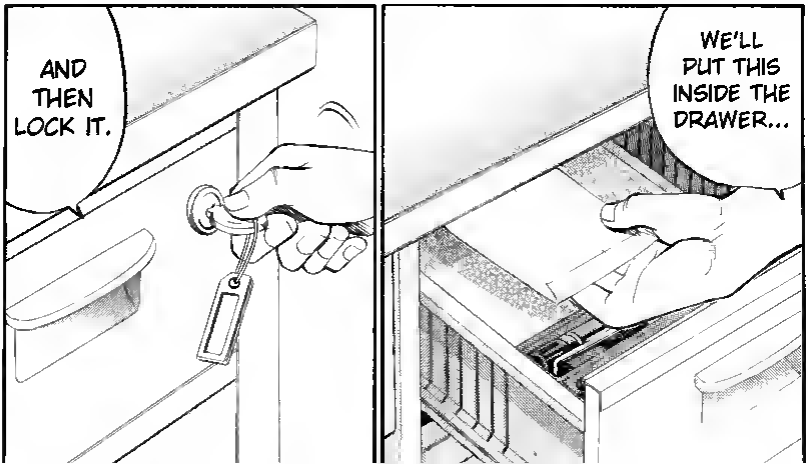
THAT'S A CRYSTAL RADIO.

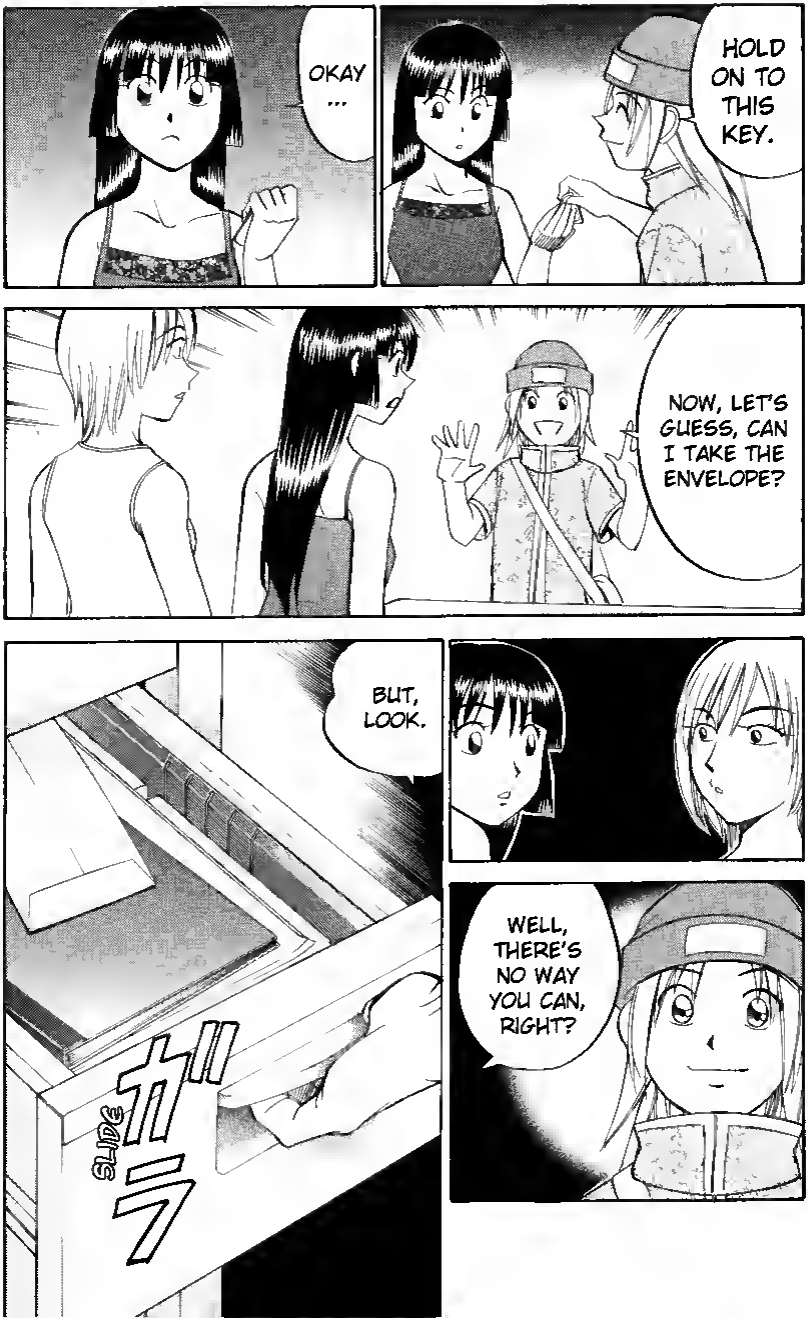

FIRST OF ALL, ATTACH A COPPER WIRE ACROSS THE ROOM, AND THE ANTENNA IS MADE.
NEXT, DETERMINE THE WAVE FREQUENCY WITH THE CONDENSOR AND INDUCTOR THAT IS PLACED BEHIND THE ROCKS,
AND THEN THIS CRYSTAL CHANGES THE FLOWING ELECTRONIC WAVE INTO SOUND.
THE VIBRATION OF THE DISPLAY GLASS WORKS LIKE A SPEAKER.
FINALLLY, ATTACH THE CABLE TO THIS HEATER AS A GROUND.
THIS IS WHAT WAS USED MAKE THE SOUND OF CRYING AND PEOPLE BANGING ON WALLS.
WHY WOULD ANYONE GO THAT FAR?

TO SCARE AWAY PEOPLE FROM HERE.
PEOPLE WON'T GET CLOSE TO A HAUNTED ROOM.
HOWEVER, THERE'S ONE PERSON WHO WASN'T AFFECTED.
IN OTHER WORDS, THE POINT OF ALL THIS NOISE IS ONLY ONE THING...
YOU, TACHIBANA-SENPAI.
MY GUESS IS THAT'S THE REASON THAT THE ROBBERY HAPPENED.
SENPAI TRIED TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY, AND EVEN CONSULTED WITH OUTSIDERS.
IN OTHER WORDS, HER PRESENCE IS BOTHERING THE CULPRIT.

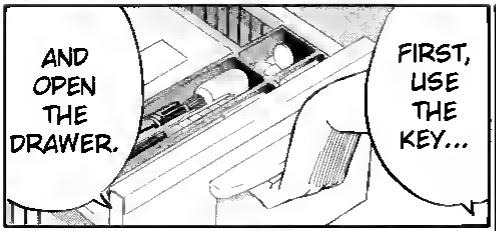

THIS IS WHERE THE THEFT HAPPENED.
NOW,
事務所

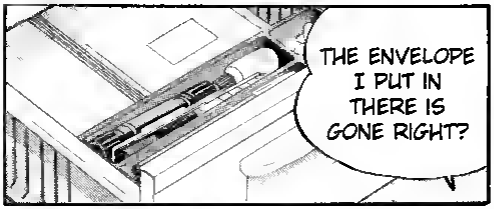

WITH PIECES OF PAPER INSIDE.
I PRE-PARED AN ENVELOPE HERE...
LET ME BORROW THE KEY TO THE DRAWER.

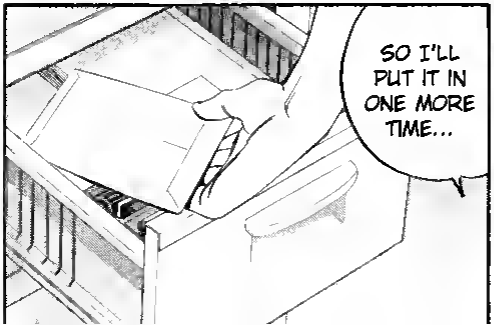

AND THEN LOCK IT.
WE'LL PUT THIS INSIDE THE DRAWER...

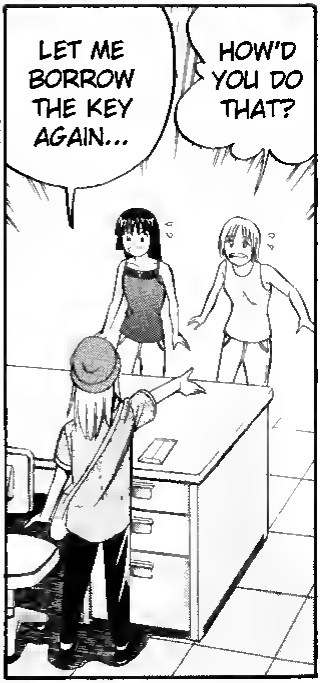

OKAY ...
HOLD ON TO THIS KEY.
NOW, LET'S GUESS, CAN I TAKE THE ENVELOPE?
BUT, LOOK.
WELL, THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN, RIGHT?
SLIDE
ガラ

TA-DAH!

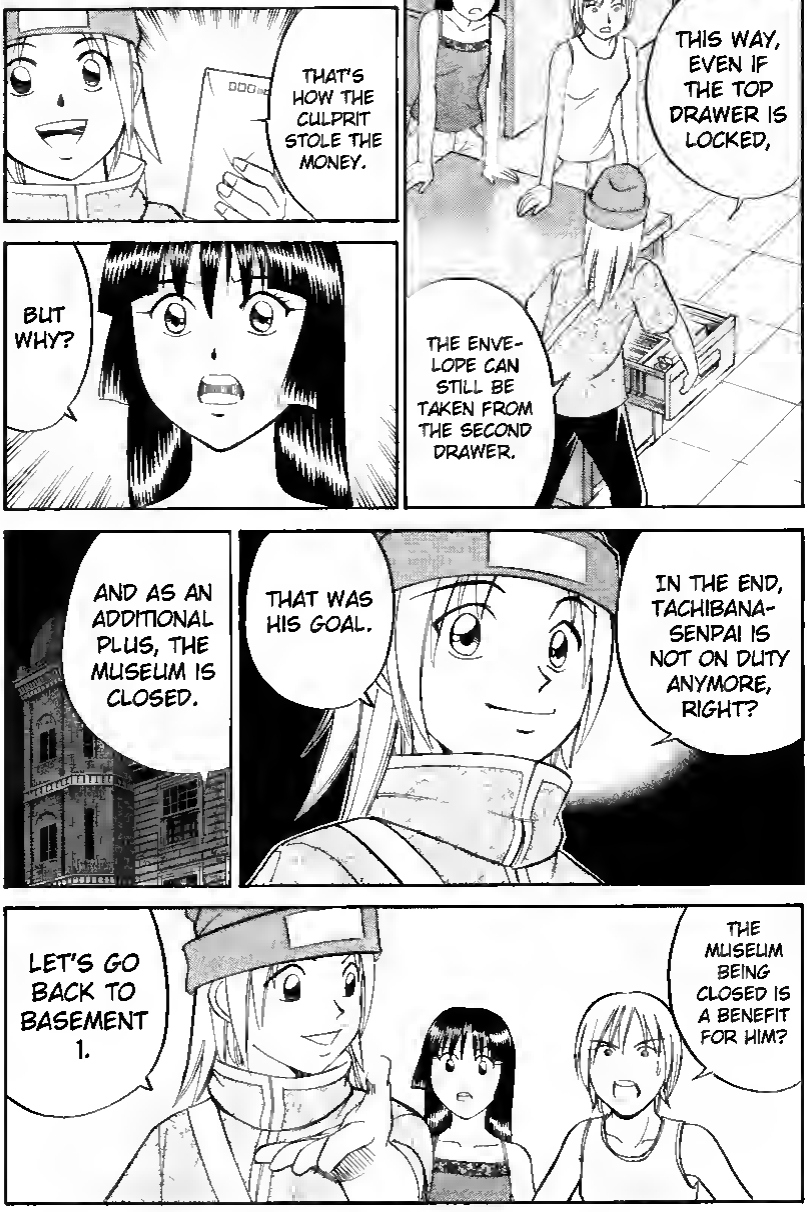

FIRST, USE THE KEY...
AND OPEN THE DRAWER.


THE ENVELOPE I PUT IN THERE IS GONE RIGHT?

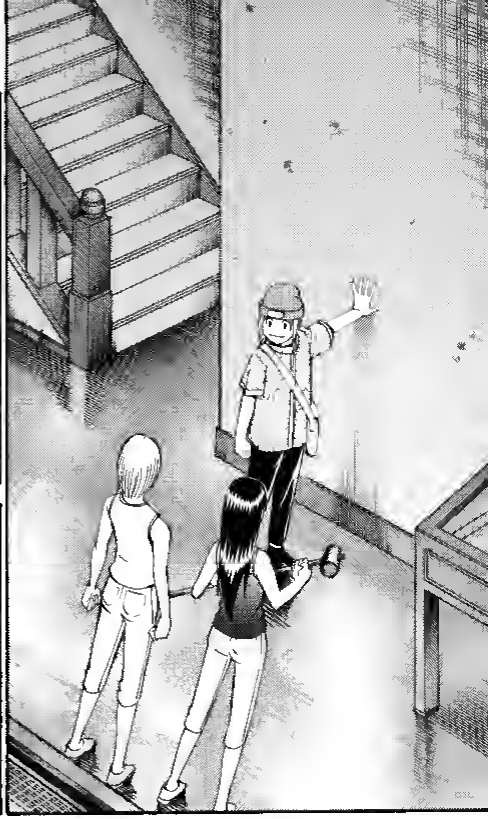

SO I'LL PUT IT IN ONE MORE TIME...


HOW'D YOU DO THAT?
LET ME BORROW THE KEY AGAIN...

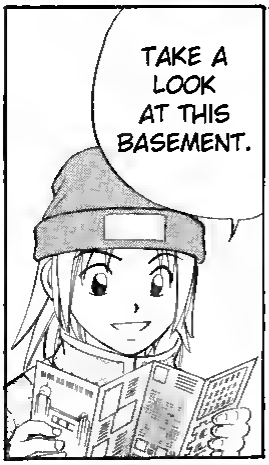
BUT, I'M TOSSING ENVELOPE ALL THE WAY TO THE BACK...
SO THAT IT FALLS DOWN TO THE SECOND DRAWER.
AH!

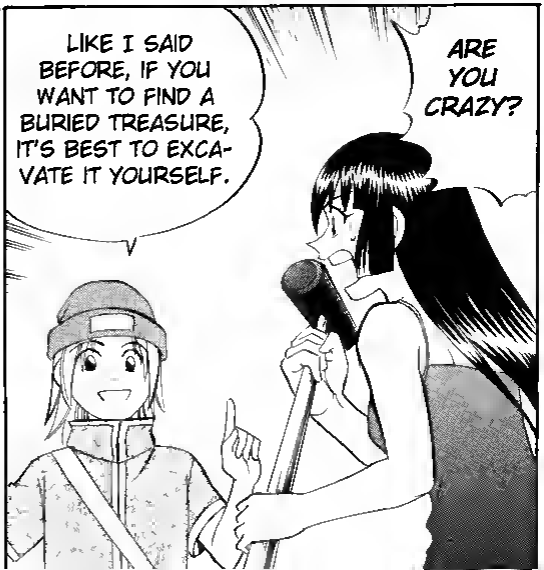

THAT'S HOW THE CULPRIT STOLE THE MONEY.
THIS WAY, EVEN IF THE TOP DRAWER IS LOCKED,
BUT WHY?
THE ENVELOPE CAN STILL BE TAKEN FROM THE SECOND DRAWER.
AND AS AN ADDITIONAL PLUS, THE MUSEUM IS CLOSED.
THAT WAS HIS GOAL.
IN THE END, TACHIBANA-SENPAI IS NOT ON DUTY ANYMORE, RIGHT?
LET'S GO BACK TO BASEMENT 1.
THE MUSEUM BEING CLOSED IS A BENEFIT FOR HIM?

PLEASE DESTROY THIS WALL WITH THAT HAMMER.
NOW, NANASE-SENPAI,

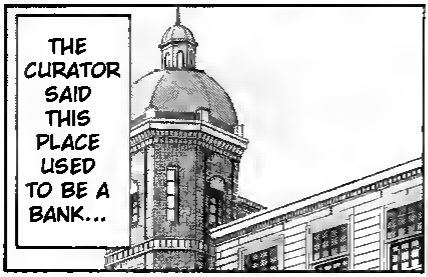


HUH !?


TAKE A LOOK AT THIS BASEMENT.


LIKE I SAID BEFORE, IF YOU WANT TO FIND A BURIED TREASURE, IT'S BEST TO EXCAVATE IT YOURSELF.
ARE YOU CRAZY?

IF WE COMPARE IT TO THE MAP,
THERE'S A PART THAT'S MISSING.
I MARKED IT HERE.

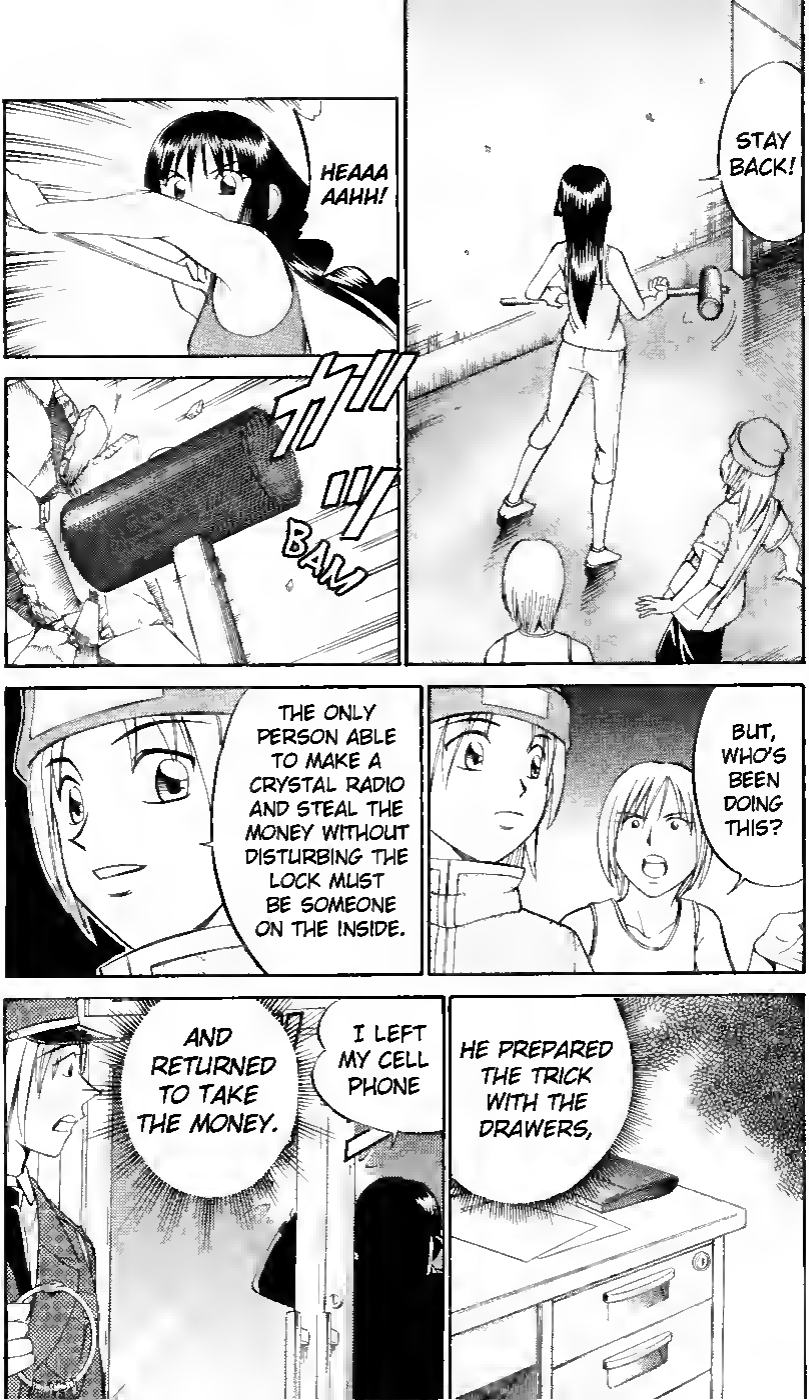

THE CURATOR SAID THIS PLACE USED TO BE A BANK...

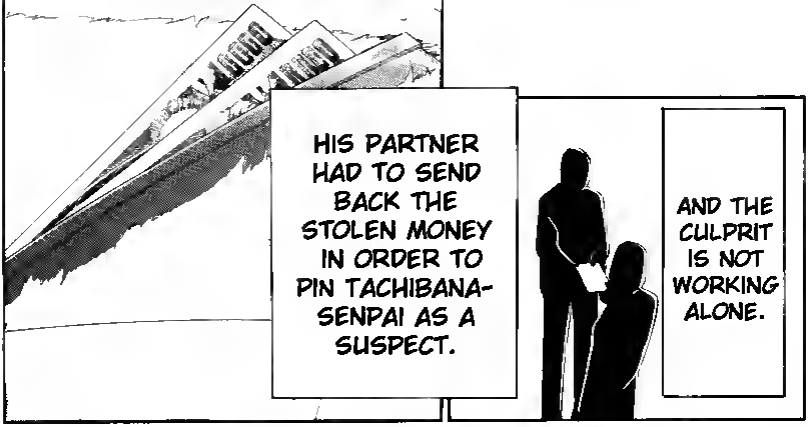
IT'S THE SPACE BELOW THESE STAIRS.

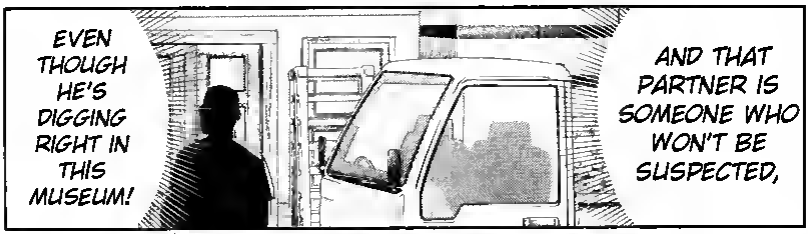
WITH A HUGE AMOUNT OF MONEY STORED IN A SAFE LOCATED INSIDE A SMALL CHAMBER IN THE BASEMENT...

THERE IS NO SMALL CHAMBER IN THIS ROOM.
HOW-EVER, AS FAR AS I CAN SEE,
THOUGHT TO BE LOST AFTER THE HUGE EARTH-QUAKE IN THE KANTO REGION.
SO, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE CHAMBER IS BEHIND THIS WALL, RIGHT?
I PICKED UP A TOOL FROM THE STONE AGE IN THE STREET OUT-SIDE THE MUSEUM.
THE EARTH'S CRUST IN THE KANTO REGION IS MOSTLY DOMINATED BY A DENSE ASH LAYER FROM THE MT. FUJI ERUPTIONS.
USUALLY, ANY-THING FROM THE STONE AGE WHOULD BE BURIED UNDER THAT LAYER.

WHAT IF THAT HOLE IS BEHIND THIS WALL?
THE STONE TOOL ON THE SURFACE SHOWS THAT SOMEONE NEAR HERE IS DIGGING DEEP INTO THE EARTH.
THE SOUND OF BANGING ON THE WALLS IS TO MASK THE SOUND OF DIGGING.
THAT'S WHAT THE "GHOSTS" REALLY ARE!
THE SOUND OF PEOPLE CRYING IS A WEAPON TO MAKE PEOPLE STAY AWAY.
IN OTHER WORDS...
AND THE CULPRIT MUST KNOW THAT TACHIBANA-SENPAI'S NOT ON DUTY.
NO ONE'S HERE BECAUSE THE MUSEUM IS CLOSED.

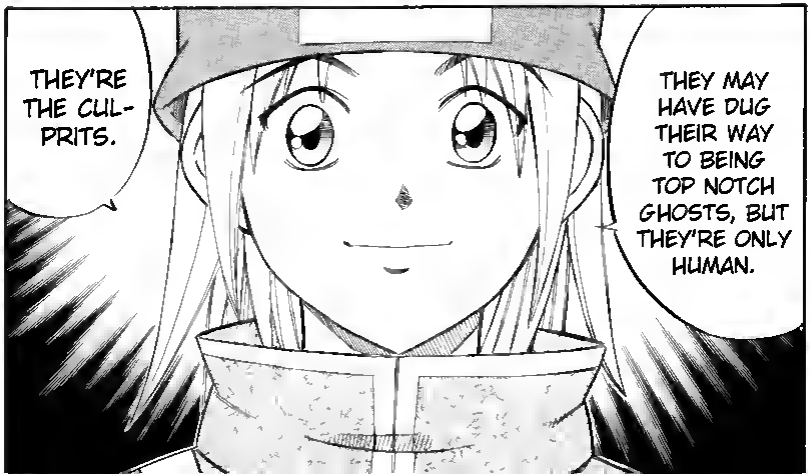

STAY BACK!
HEAAA AAHH!
BAM
THE ONLY PERSON ABLE TO MAKE A CRYSTAL RADIO AND STEAL THE MONEY WITHOUT DISTURBING THE LOCK MUST BE SOMEONE ON THE INSIDE.
BUT, WHO'S BEEN DOING THIS?
HE PREPARED THE TRICK WITH THE DRAWERS,
I LEFT MY CELL PHONE
AND RETURNED TO TAKE THE MONEY.


HIS PARTNER HAD TO SEND BACK THE STOLEN MONEY IN ORDER TO PIN TACHIBANA-SENPAI AS A SUSPECT.
AND THE CULPRIT IS NOT WORKING ALONE.


EVEN THOUGH HE'S DIGGING RIGHT IN THIS MUSEUM!
AND THAT PARTNER IS SOMEONE WHO WON'T BE SUSPECTED,

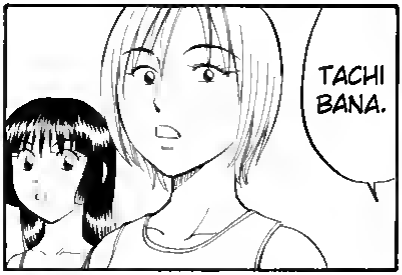
BAM
THERE'S AN EMPTY ROOM BEHIND THE WALL?
SCRE

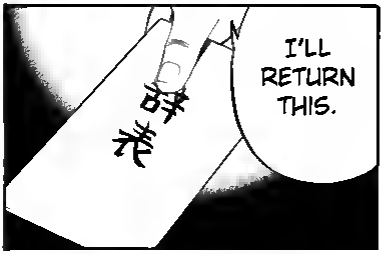
THE OWNER OF THE CAFE ACROSS THE STREET!
MR. SHIMOZEKI THE ACCOUNTANT!
SQUEEEEEEEE

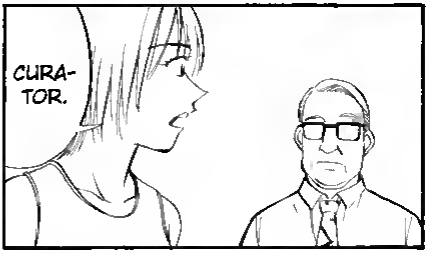

THEY'RE THE CULPRITS.
THEY MAY HAVE DUG THEIR WAY TO BEING TOP NOTCH GHOSTS, BUT THEY'RE ONLY HUMAN.

GET 'EM!!
WELL, THEY ARE TECH-NICALLY VICTIMS...
THIS IS THE CRIME SCENE!! WE NEED AN AMBU-LANCE!!
BUT THEY'RE ALSO THE CUL-PRITS!!

AMAZ-
ING...
THERE'S A SAFE IN THE BASEMENT...

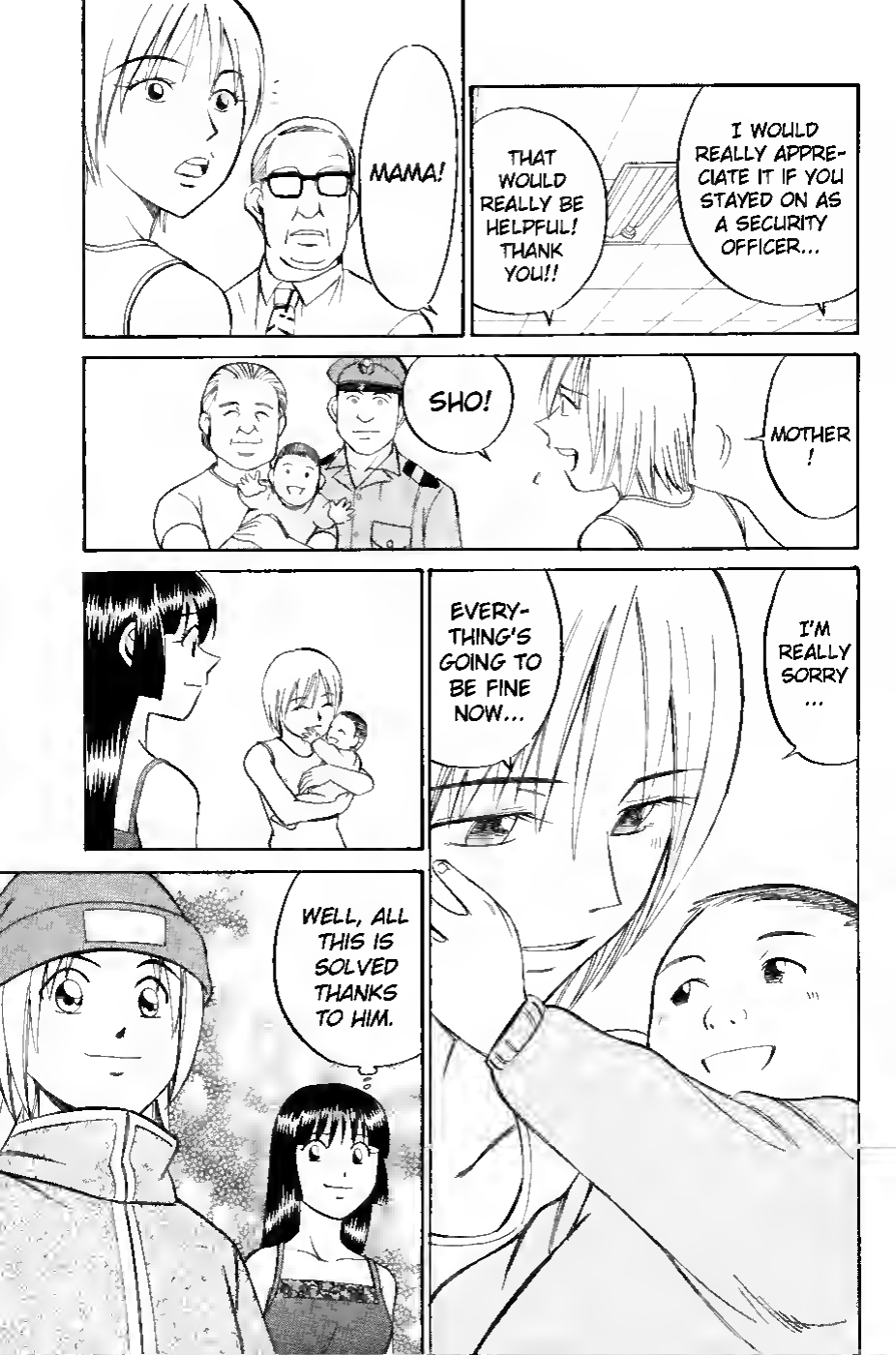

TACHI
BANA.


I'LL RETURN THIS.

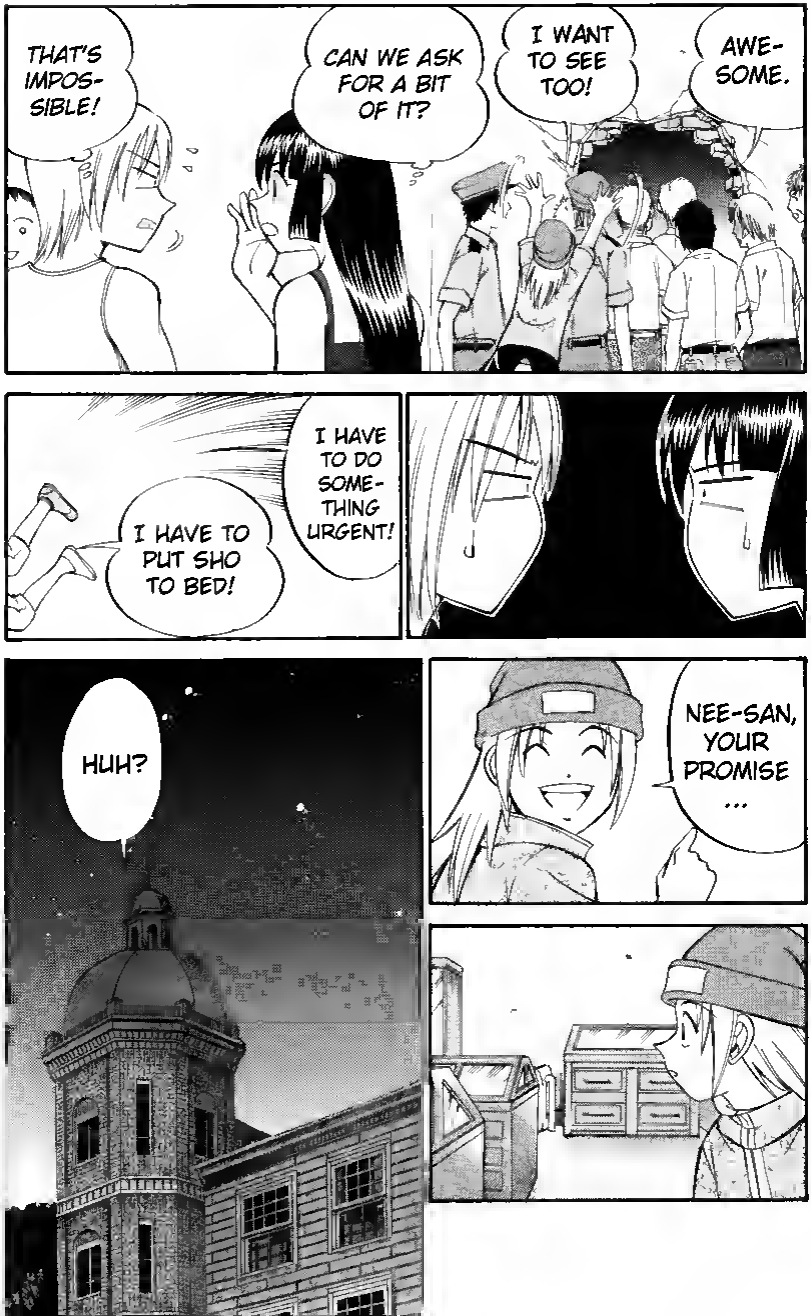

CURA-
TOR.

I'M TRULY SORRY.
I ALMOST BLAMED THIS WHOLE ORDEAL ON YOU WHEN YOU'VE BEEN NOTHING BUT LOYAL AND HONEST...

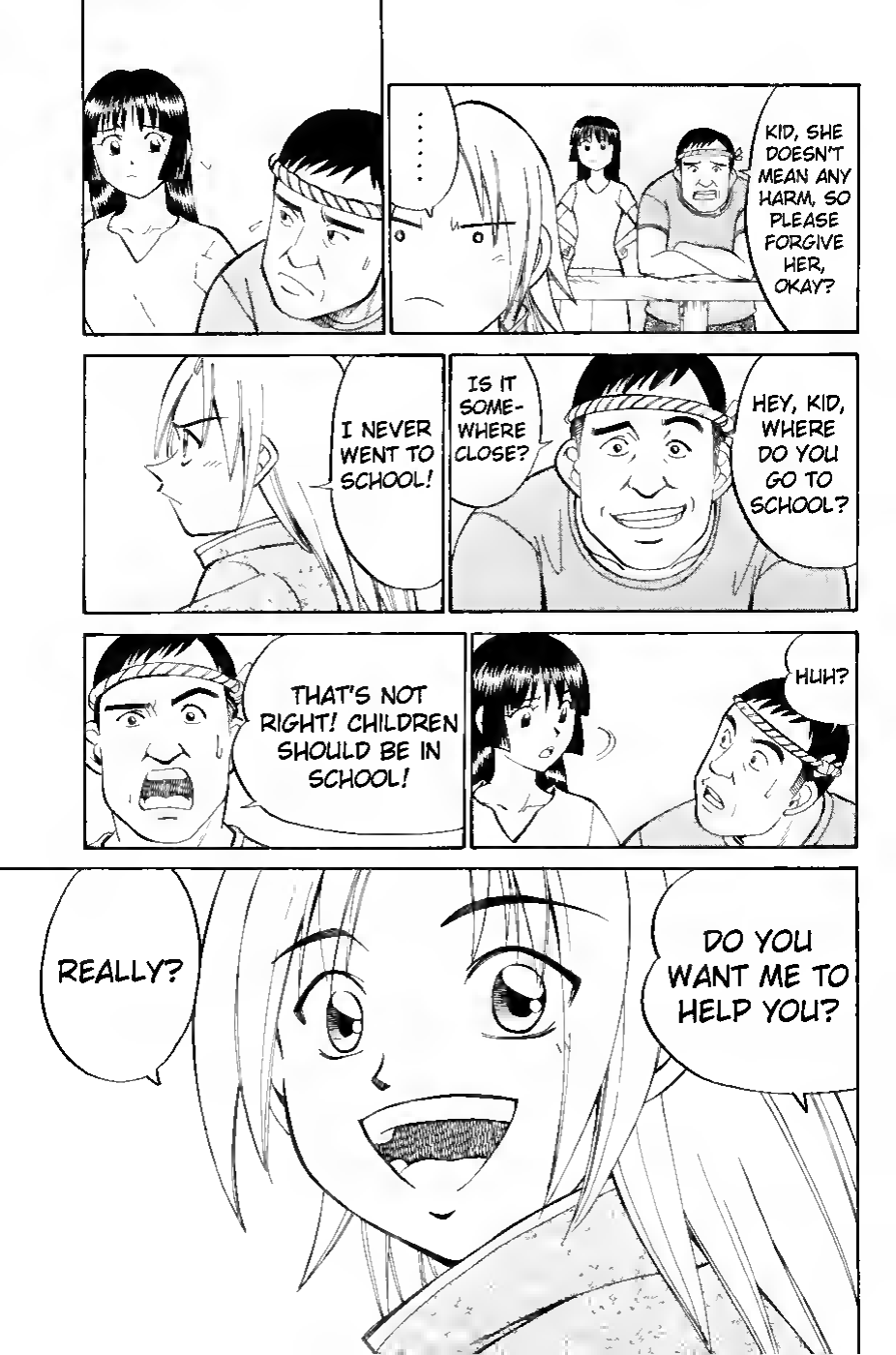
I'M SORRY.

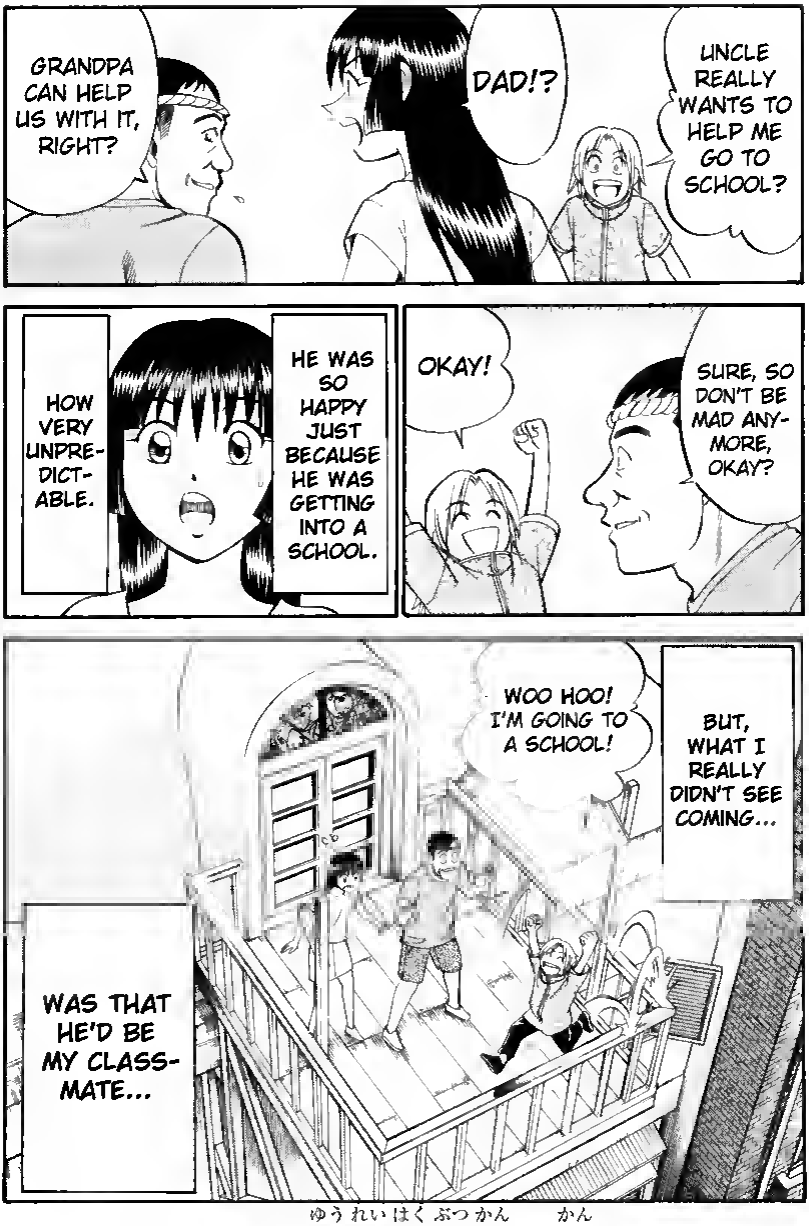

MAMA!
I WOULD REALLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU STAYED ON AS A SECURITY OFFICER...
THAT WOULD REALLY BE HELPFUL! THANK YOU!!
SHO!
MOTHER!
I'M REALLY SORRY...
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE FINE NOW...
WELL, ALL THIS IS SOLVED THANKS TO HIM.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, JUST DON'T FORGET YOUR PROMISE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SHINRA.
AH!!
NO PROB-LEM...
THE SAFE IS OPEN!!
THE THING THAT WE FOUND WAS...
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.
WELL THEN, WE WILL SECURE THIS AS EVIDENCE.
HISTORIC CURRENCY!!
IT'S SO RARE AND WELL PRE-SERVED !!


THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!
CAN WE ASK FOR A BIT OF IT?
I WANT TO SEE TOO!
AWE-SOME.
I HAVE TO PUT SHO TO BED!
I HAVE TO DO SOME-THING URGENT!
HUH?
NEE-SAN, YOUR PROMISE ...

THAT MONEY CAN'T BE GIVEN TO YOU!
THAT'S WHY I'M APOLOGIZING NOW!
CREAK
AS A REPLACEMENT, I'VE MADE YOU A PLACE TO DRY YOUR CLOTHES, RIGHT!
ACTUALLY, I'M THE ONE WHO MADE IT.
THINK OF IT AS REPAYMENT FOR ME WATCHING THE REGISTER EVERY DAY!
YOU SHOULD THINK FIRST BEFORE MAKING A PROMISE ...
WELL, WHAT ELSE COULD I DO? TACHIBANA-SENPAI WAS IN TROUBLE!


KID, SHE DOESN'T MEAN ANY HARM, SO PLEASE FORGIVE HER, OKAY?
.....
HEY, KID, WHERE DO YOU GO TO SCHOOL?
IS IT SOME-WHERE CLOSE?
I NEVER WENT TO SCHOOL!
HUH?
THAT'S NOT RIGHT! CHILDREN SHOULD BE IN SCHOOL!
DO YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU?
REALLY?


GRANDPA CAN HELP US WITH IT, RIGHT?
DAD!?
UNCLE REALLY WANTS TO HELP ME GO TO SCHOOL?
HOW VERY UNPRE-DICT-ABLE.
HE WAS SO HAPPY JUST BECAUSE HE WAS GETTING INTO A SCHOOL.
OKAY!
SURE, SO DON'T BE MAD ANY-MORE, OKAY?
WOO HOO! I'M GOING TO A SCHOOL!
BUT, WHAT I REALLY DIDN'T SEE COMING...
WAS THAT HE'D BE MY CLASS-MATE...

—Op.02:幽霊博物館　完—

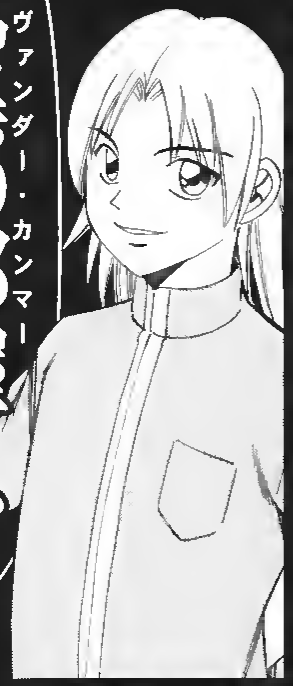
Ghost in the museum　end

Op.01
擬態(ぎたい)‥‥月刊少年(げっかんしょうねん)マガジン2005年(ねん)10月号(がつごうけいさい)掲載
Mimicry

Op.02
幽霊博物館(ゆうれいはくぶつかん)‥‥月刊少年(げっかんしょうねん)マガジン2005年(ねん)11月号(がつごうけいさい)掲載
Ghost in the museum

事件が起きたのは、
存在しないはずの「青いビル」……
目撃者"X"の正体とは!?

幾人もの持ち主を死に追いやった
「呪いの面」……
果たして呪いは実在するのか!?



"驚異の部屋"(ヴァンダー・カンマー)を
ご案内します

C.M.B.
森羅博物館の事件目録

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5月17日発売決定!!

Q.E.D.—証明終了—第24巻も同時発売!!

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C.M.B.森羅博物館の事件目録①

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講談社　月刊少年マガジン編集部「CMB森羅博物館の事件目録」KC係

加藤元浩が贈る、もう一つの
知的冒険アクション!
KC
全10巻
ロケットマン
IGNITION
SEQUENCE
START...
A BOY MEETS
ROCKET
MAN

知性への挑戦状!!

Q.E.D.
証明終了

加藤元浩

その謎を解け!!

第1〜23巻
絶賛発売中

月刊少年マガジン増刊
マガジンGREAT(偶数月20日発売)にて
大好評連載中!!

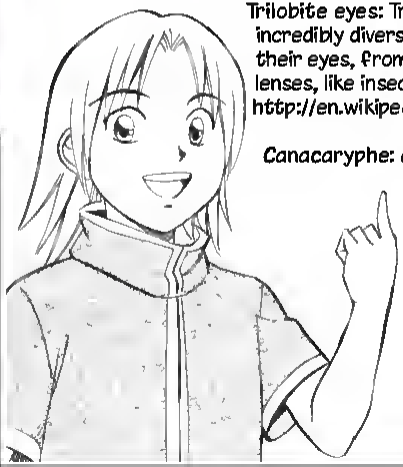
The Benthic Zone of Knowledge

p123

gargonaps: As yau can see from the diagram, a gorgonops' teeth are samewhat similar to those af a saber toothed cat. However, it looks mare like a large, hairy lizard with a rat's face.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gorgonops

p124-125

Rack mavement: Since a trilobite lived in the sea, it's body would naturally end up on the sea floar. Water movement wauld sweep more sediment on top af the body, and each addition would compress the layer below it.

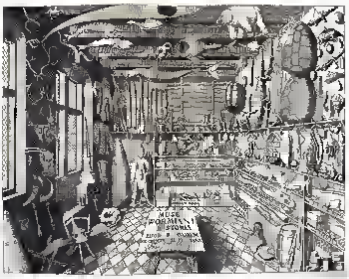


Trilobite eyes: Trilobite species were incredibly diverse, as were the types of their eyes, from one lense to many lenses, like insects today.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trilobite#Eyes

Canacaryphe: a genus af trilobites.

Notes

CABINET OF WONDER,
IN GERMAN KUNSTKAMMER
OR WUNDERKAMMER
(WONDER-ROOM).



A Cabinet of curiosities was an encyclopedic collection in Renaissance Europe of types of objects whose categorical boundaries were yet to be defined. Modern terminology would categorize the objects included as belonging to natural history (sometimes faked), geology, ethnography, archaeology, religious or historical relics, works of art (including cabinet paintings) and antiquities. "

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabinet_of_curiosities

WATER HAMMER

Water hammer (or, more generally, fluid hammer) is a pressure surge or wave resulting when a fluid (usually a liquid but sometimes also a gas) in motion is forced to stop or change direction suddenly (momentum change). Water hammer commonly occurs when a valve is closed suddenly at an end of a pipeline system, and a pressure wave propagates in the pipe. It may also be known as hydraulic shock.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_hammer

Crystal Radio

Notes

A crystal radio receiver, also called a crystal set or cat's whisker receiver, is a very simple radio receiver, popular in the early days of radio. It needs no battery or power source and runs on the power received from radio waves by a long wire antenna

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crystal_radio

Ghost in The Museum

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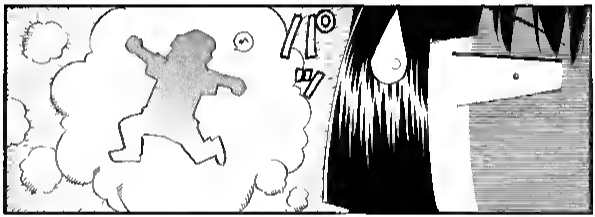
THE ONLY GHOST IN THE MUSEUM I'M FAMILIAR WITH IS...



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"WE'RE NOT THIEVES! IT'S HABIT! WE WERE MOLES IN PAST LIFE!!"

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